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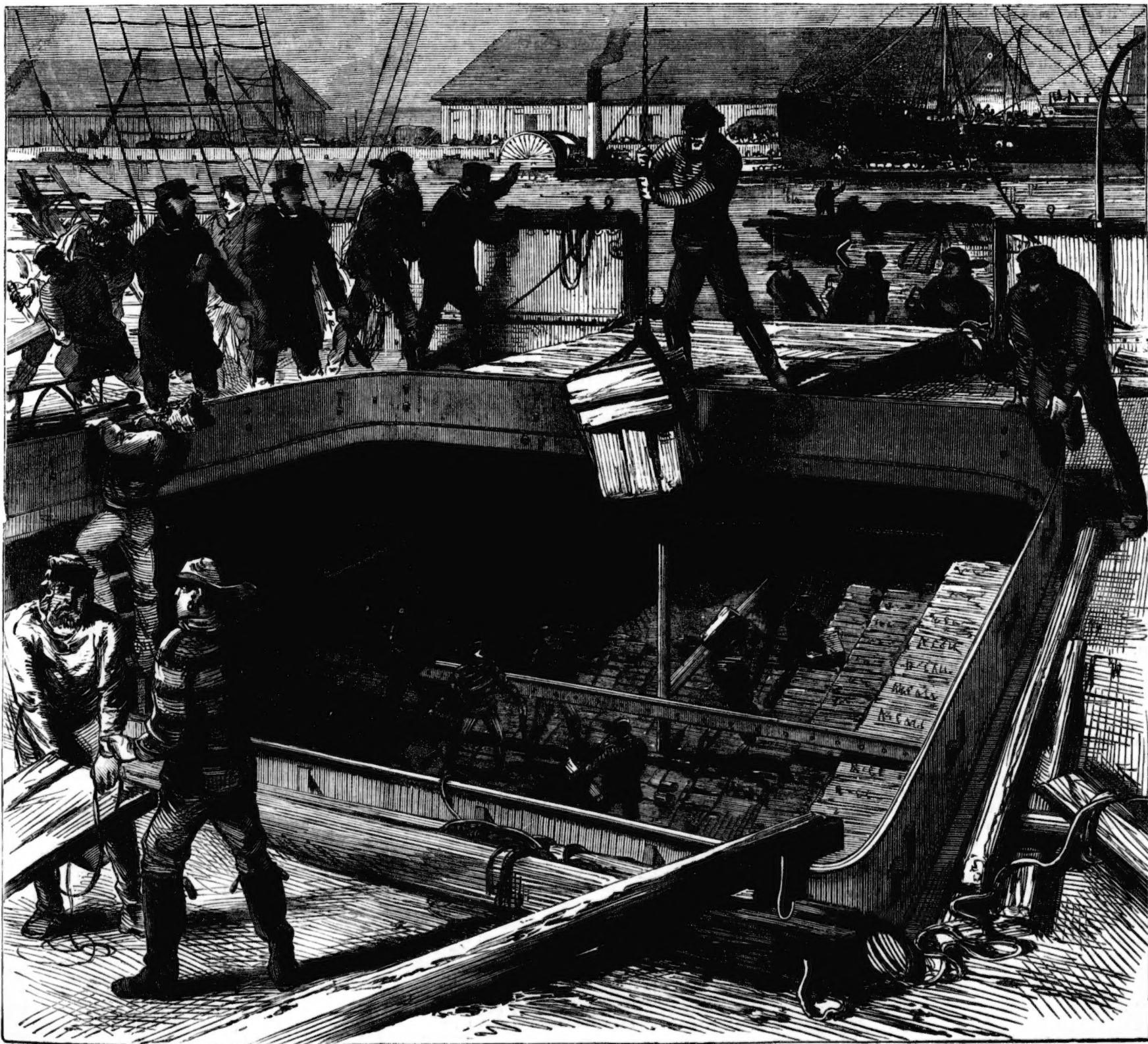
WHAT A HOT SUMMER MAY BRING FORTH.

PEOPLE in a fright usually overlook dangers at hand while guarding against others at a distance; and that is much the case with our panic-mongers just at present. They are all so preoccupied with predicting one sort of invasion of this country, which is not at all likely to happen, that they totally forget another kind that is almost certain to be upon us in the course of the ensuing summer. They think so much of war that they forget pestilence; and yet a visitation of the latter is much more imminent than one of the former. We have, in fact, more immediate danger to apprehend from the dead than from the living. It may not be necessary—we do not for our part think it is—to guard against the advent of Count Moltke and the

"Prussian hordes" on these shores; but it is needful to adopt precautions against the very probable consequences of their work in France. Pestilence follows war almost as certainly as effect succeeds to cause; and the state of things in France is extremely likely to breed maladies that will not be so easily "localised" in their operation as the war has been. It therefore behoves us to take measures in time to meet the emergencies that are pretty sure to arise.

We have already had a foretaste of the mischiefs, in the form of disease, that war brings in its train. It can scarcely admit of a doubt that the visitation of smallpox, from which London is now suffering, has been greatly aggravated if not mainly caused by the enormous influx of French people,

especially of Parisians, that has taken place since the war broke out, and particularly since the siege of Paris became imminent. Twelve months ago that terrible malady was raging with great virulence in Paris, while it was scarcely known in London, and now a very large proportion of the mortality in the British metropolis is due to smallpox. It appears from the Registrar-General's returns that, whereas in the first quarter of 1870 the deaths from smallpox in England and Wales were under 400, in the last quarter they had mounted up to over 1100—an increase of nearly three-fold; and that the augmented intensity of the epidemic occurred mainly in the second half of the year—that is, from the time the immigration from the Continent commenced. It is not straining matters, therefore, to conclude



REVICTUALLING OF PARIS: LOADING THE BERGSUND WITH PROVISIONS IN THE MILLWALL DOCK, LONDON.



that the French refugees brought the distemper with them, either in an active or in a latent form. That the state of affairs in which we live offered a fine field for the action of the disease is true; neglect of vaccination, overcrowding, foul air, and impure water materially aid the fell work of death and disfigurement; and most of these causes would be equally operative in the event of any other form of pestilence showing itself. Hence the importance of taking time by the forelock and being prepared for whatever may happen.

And, considering what has been going on in France during the last six months, and remembering the condition of France now, what more likely to happen than that pestilential diseases will be generated? and if they be generated there, what more certain than that they will spread over Europe, England included? The zymotic class of disorders, the most fatal of all the maladies to which humanity is obnoxious, have their origin, as we know, in squalor, poverty, and foulness: precisely the conditions that now obtain, and for months to come must continue to obtain, in France. The visitations of Asiatic cholera from which the western world suffered some years ago, are generally believed to have originated in large measure from the crowding of the Mohammedan pilgrims to Mecca, and the foulness, filth, and accumulations of offal which their habits of living and the sacrifices they offered produced. But what are the offal-heaps of Mecca to the masses of putridity spread over nearly half of France? and what are the squalor and poverty of a few thousand pilgrims at Mecca to the millions of semi-starving beings whom the war will leave behind it across the Channel? Thousands upon thousands of men and animals have perished in France since August last, and their remains have barely a sprinkling of earth to cover them. The whole country, from the Moselle and the Meuse to the Seine and the Loire—east, north, and south—is dotted over with graves, from which, when the hot sun of summer beats upon them, the most deadly pestilential gases must needs be evolved. Add to this, that from the destruction of homesteads and the general paucity of the means of living, over-crowding and privation must prevail to even a still greater degree than they do now—and that, by all accounts, is bad enough—and does it not become a physical certainty that disease will supplement the work of the sword, and that pestilence will be generated from which victors and vanquished, belligerents and neutrals, will alike suffer? The red rain with which the soil of France has been so freely saturated, may perchance make future harvests grow; but it craves wary watching lest a crop of disease and death be not yielded meanwhile. Much might be done on the spot to fix and neutralise the noxious exhalations emanating from the thousands of scarcely-buried bodies that are scattered over the battle-fields of France. That would naturally be the duty of the French Government, had France a Government in condition to take the work in hand; but as she has not, and is not likely soon to have, men at the head of affairs free to undertake the task, it might be well for some of the volunteer associations now in operation for the relief of suffering and poverty to take measures for seeing to the more complete interment of the dead and the spreading of lime and other disinfectants over their graves. At all events, if nothing can be done to hinder the origination of disease, something ought to be attempted to check its spread among ourselves.

The prevailing smallpox epidemic has found London but ill-prepared to cope with such a visitation. Shall we permit the probably still more deadly disorders—fevers of all kinds, and perhaps even cholera itself—that are next to certain to arise in the devastated districts of France next summer, to catch us equally unprovided with either safeguards, accommodation for patients, or remedies? We have taken precautions against the importation and spread of cattle-plagues; shall we, by supineness, indifference, and lack of forethought, lay ourselves open to the charge of being less careful of the lives of men than of beasts? We cannot "stamp out" diseases in human beings as we did rinderpest in cattle—by wholesale slaughter; but that makes it all the more necessary that we should, while time serves, take precautions against the advent of such diseases among us, and provide ample and effective means of treating them should they unhappily make their appearance.

We do not wish to be alarmists on this or on any other subject; but we do hope that attention will be given to real, instead of to imaginary, dangers—that the thought, energy, and action that should be devoted to warding off the sure attacks of disease will not be dissipated in providing for the very problematical appearance of the Emperor-King and his myrmidons on our shores; and that our public officers, from the Home Secretary to the humblest vestryman, will be alive to their duty, and take care that for such an invasion as we really are threatened with we shall be prepared—and prepared in time. Let us have army reform by all means; but let us have sanitary reform also: the one is even more pressing than the other. Disease, not war, is the evil we have immediately to dread; and to meet and vanquish disease, not war, should our national defences be made efficient. Let sanitary armaments be looked to, let hospital fortifications be constructed, let local ambulances be provided, and let medical artillery be prepared for action; so that when the foe comes—as come he almost too certainly will—we shall not be "caught napping," as we generally are in like case.

AN ACCIDENT occurred last Saturday at the Trieres coal and iron-stone collieries, Tunstall, Staffordshire, by which three men were killed on the spot, and two others and a boy so severely injured that their recovery is despaired of. The firing of a shot for blasting the stone loosened a large portion of the roof, and from sixty to seventy tons of earth and small stones fell suddenly. Five men and the boy, and also a horse, were buried, and three of the men and the horse, when dug out, were dead.

AID FOR PARIS.

VIGOROUS efforts are being made in London and throughout the kingdom to afford aid to Paris in her present distressed condition. The fund collected at the Mansion House, under the auspices of the Lord Mayor, had on Tuesday reached the sum of £42,000, of which £40,000 had been expended in provisions forwarded to France. On Monday alone the total sum received by the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House amounted to no less than £5500, exclusive of contributions paid into the various banks. On Sunday evening the Lord Mayor received a communication from Lord Granville to the effect that on the previous day, at four p.m., Mr. Odo Russell had telegraphed to him from Versailles that Mr. George Moore and Colonel Stuart Wortley, the representatives of the committee, had reached Paris that day, after a journey of twenty-six hours, and were making arrangements for the gratuitous distribution at once of the food at their disposal. Other consignments of edibles sent by the Mansion House Committee in large quantities—one of them in charge of the Hon. Henry Bourke, brother of Lord Mayo—have followed those which Mr. Moore and Colonel Wortley took with them to Paris, so that the supply from that source will now be pretty regular, and will go far to relieve the prevailing destitution. Last Saturday fifty railway-waggons laden with provisions arrived in Paris, bearing the following inscription:—"Gifts from the City of London to the City of Paris." At a meeting of the committee on Tuesday a telegram from M. Jules Ferry, Mayor of Paris, was read, containing the following passages:—"I have taken charge of the first portion of your magnificent and fraternal gift. The city of Paris expresses to the city of London her profound gratitude in the extremity of her misfortune. The voice of the English people has been the first which has brought to us the expression of sympathy from outside Paris. The people of Paris will never forget it; and if our two nations are united, we may have faith in the future." In addition to the grants already made, a resolution was passed authorising a further expenditure of £3000 in provisions; and additional stores have since been dispatched, as means to procure them flowed in.

A public meeting, summoned by the Lord Mayor, was held, on Wednesday afternoon, at the Mansion House, in aid of the French Relief Fund. Amongst the principal speakers were the Lord Mayor, the Bishops of London and Winchester; Mr. Crawford, M.P.; Mr. Kirkman-Hodgson, M.P.; Sir John Lubbock, M.P.; and Archbishop Manning. It was determined not only to appeal to the metropolis, but generally to the whole country, for subscriptions.

The War Department store-vessel Lord Panmure, Captain Spriddle, arrived at Woolwich, on Tuesday, from Milford Haven, and was laid alongside the Royal Arsenal, one gang of men being engaged in removing the old stores which she had brought to the arsenal, while another gang was employed loading her with flour and other provisions for the relief of the inhabitants of Paris. The Lord Panmure was to sail for Havre as soon as her freight was complete. At Deptford, alongside the Royal Victualling-yard, her Majesty's vessels Buffalo, Buzzard, and Medusa have been loaded with provisions for Paris, comprising salt beef, preserved meat, and flour, being the same as issued to the Royal Navy.

M. Pouyer-Quertier, president of the Chamber of Commerce at Rouen, reports that all obstacles to the navigation of the Seine between Rouen and the sea have been removed. Vessels can enter the port of Dieppe with perfect safety during the period of the armistice. The communications with Paris are being promptly re-established.

A meeting of publishers, booksellers, and their assistants was held on Monday, at Stationers' Hall, under the presidency of Mr. Thomas Longman, for the purpose of raising a fund for the immediate relief of the suffering classes of employes connected with the publishing and bookselling trades in Paris. A committee was appointed, and £500 was subscribed in the room.

The London Stereoscopic Company have devoted a window at each of their establishments for the sale of 2000 stereoscopic views of Paris, at 1s. each, the entire proceeds, without any deduction whatever, to be devoted to the Lord Mayor's Fund for the relief of the starving population of Paris. The name of each purchaser, with the amount purchased, will be entered upon a list, which list will accompany the donation of £100. Persons in the country can receive the views post-free, on remitting stamps for the number they require, at the rate of 12 stamps each.

Messrs. Peck, Frean, and Co. dispatched to Paris, last Saturday, from ten to eleven millions of fine navy biscuits, weighing more than 700 tons and occupying 10,500 packages.

The "Sothern" Dramatic Club (president, Mr. E. A. Sothern) will give a dramatic performance in aid of the French Relief Fund, at St. George's Hall, Langham-place, on Friday evening, Feb. 17. The Byron Amateur Dramatic Club announce that they will give two performances in aid of the Fund for the Relief of the French Peasantry, on Saturday, the 11th, and on Saturday, the 18th inst., at the Royal Gallery of Illustration.

As the first fruits of a meeting at short notice, held at York, on Monday, the Mayor, Mr. George Leeman, remitted to the Lord Mayor of London £300 in aid of the fund.

About one o'clock on Tuesday morning the Allan ss. North American sailed from the Mersey for St. Nazaire with about 1200 tons of flour, intended for the revictualling of Paris. During the past two months the firm which chartered the North American have forwarded to Bordeaux and St. Nazaire many thousands of tons of pork, beef, biscuit, flour, &c., some portion of which has probably by this time been the means of saving life in starved-out Paris. Another large steamer, the Sweden, has been chartered at Liverpool for the conveyance of provisions to France. Her cargo would consist of 600 tons of biscuit, and she was to sail on Thursday.

A Brussels correspondent, writing on Monday evening, says:—"Large quantities of food are daily sent from Brussels to Paris, and the consequence is already a considerable rise of prices here. This morning M. Ansapach, the Burgomaster of Brussels, left for Paris with a train of provisions destined for the distressed Belgians in the French capital."

The committee of the French Peasant Farmers' Seed Fund have made arrangements for forwarding in the present week 1200 bags of spring wheat, which will probably be distributed within the next ten days.

The dispatch of provisions and other stores for France has caused great stir at the railway termini and docks of London. By the middle of last week the Bergsund, a Swedish vessel, was loading in the Millwall Dock, and took a large quantity of potted and other preserved meats, biscuits, &c., for Dieppe, en route to Paris. Newhaven has been especially the scene of immense activity. A gentleman who went to Paris last week says:—"There was plenty of evidence that the English were in earnest about sending supplies. Trains were going down from London to Newhaven, laden with provisions of all sorts. When I got on board the steamer Alexandra, at Newhaven, I found the deck piled with boxes and barrels, and the boat so heavily freighted that the paddle-box guards were nearly under water. Two other steamers, loaded as heavily, left at the same time for Dieppe. There were not more than forty passengers altogether—a medley of French electors; Americans, with an eye to the main chance; prudent Englishmen, going to spy out the land before risking ventures in a doubtful country; not a few Jews. I heard it said, with a kind of despair, by one of the latter that there was not much hope of doing anything at Paris immediately, because their German brethren had long since got permission to forward supplies to the front of the Prussian lines, where they lay waiting for the moment when the surrender should permit them to pour in provisions to be sold for a good price. Nobody else, they said, would be allowed to send in goods till the Germans had disposed of theirs. The story seems to me odious and utterly improbable; but there were people on the steamer who found it credible enough. They were ready to believe any ill of the Prussians."

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

Serious differences have arisen between the members of the Government in Paris and the Delegation at Bordeaux. M. Gambetta and his colleagues at Bordeaux, in a decree ordering elections for the Constituent Assembly, excluded from the suffrage, as well as from election, numerous classes of the population, former Ministers, Councillors of State, Senators, and all who had ever been official candidates. This decree was protested against by Count Bismarck as an infringement of the armistice convention and a violation of freedom of election. The Paris Government, on the same grounds, annulled the Bordeaux decree; and in consequence M. Gambetta resigned. He was at first joined in his resignation by all the Delegation at Bordeaux, but it is now announced that M. Crémieux, the Minister of Justice, and Admiral Fourichon, have been induced to withdraw their resignations by the other members of the Government. M. Emmanuel Arago has been appointed Minister of the Interior, and, *ad interim*, Minister of War.

MM. Eugène Pelle'an, Garnier-Pagès, and Emmanuel Arago, members of the Paris Government, and M. Leonville, the secretary of M. Jules Simon, have arrived in Bordeaux.

The elections for the National Assembly were fixed to take place throughout France on Wednesday. We have not as yet received sufficient information of the names of the elected to form an opinion of the political character the new Assembly is likely to present. M. Emmanuel Arago has addressed to the various Prefects of France—possibly with the full sanction of his colleagues whom he has left behind in Paris—a circular in which he points out that the laws of exclusion passed in 1832 and 1848 against persons belonging to families who have reigned over France are now in force, and render those persons ineligible to take part in the coming elections. He adds that these provisions are now, by a decree of the Provisional Government, extended to members of the Bonapartist family.

M. Dorian has assumed the portfolio of Public Works *ad interim*, in consequence of M. Magnin leaving for Dieppe.

Paris is reported to be quiet and disheartened; there are no signs of disorder or disunion. The population accuses the Government of the National Defence of not having displayed sufficient vigour, and of not having consulted the people with regard to the capitulation.

M. Bert, the Prefect of the North, having resigned, M. Hendle, private secretary to M. Jules Favre, has been appointed his successor, and has entered upon his duties. Lille is quiet. A rather large number of electors presented themselves at the voting-places. M. Carnot, the commissioner extraordinary in Normandy, has sent in his resignation, in consequence of the retirement of M. Gambetta from the Government.

A despatch has been forwarded from Versailles to the German officials, ordering them to abstain from all censorship of French journals during the period of the elections in the districts occupied by the German troops. Many journals which had ceased to appear are being again published.

The Paris Government has rejected a proposal of M. Dorian for terminating the Treaty of Commerce with England, and it will therefore remain in force a year longer.

It is said that M. Etienne Arago has been intrusted with a mission to Italy.

The Municipal Council of Lyons has caused to be posted up a programme, of which the three principal heads are:—War a *outrance*; a Conventional Government, to be established at Lyons; and the nomination of a Convention composed of delegates from the departments, named by the towns only. Lyons has sent to Bordeaux three delegates to support this programme, who have experienced a favourable reception from Gambetta.

There seems to have been no truth in the report of General Ducrot having poisoned himself. He has been nominated as a candidate for the National Assembly in the department of the Nièvre.

SPAIN.

The former Republican members of the Cortes have issued a manifesto energetically advising the people to strive to obtain by means of the elections a reform of article 33 of the Constitution and the dethronement of the Savoy dynasty. The manifesto claims for the Spanish people full sovereignty in all matters of constitutional power; and concludes by expressing ardent wishes for the success of the French people, whom it describes as victims of the ambition of the house of Brandenburg, the crimes of the Bonapartists, and the ingratitude of the house of Savoy.

ITALY.

The Porte has drawn the attention of the Italian Government to the irregularity committed in breaking off relations directly with Tunis without previous communication with the Porte. The Italian Government, while admitting the rights of the Porte over the Regency of Tunis, justifies itself by a reference to precedents.

THE NETHERLANDS.

M. van Lansberge, at present *chef de Cabinet* of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, has been appointed provisionally Dutch Minister in London.

GERMANY.

In Wednesday's sitting of the Lower House of the Prussian Diet the Minister of Finance brought in a bill empowering him to place at the disposition of the Chancellor of the Confederation a credit up to the amount of fifty millions of thalers, for which the Minister of Finance can issue Treasury Bonds to the amount of six millions, which will fall due on July 1, 1871. The rate of interest and the redemption are to be settled in accordance with the law of Sept. 28, 1866; a special account of the employment of the funds will be laid before the Diet in its next Session. The preamble of the bill states that, as the German Empire is at present without any constitutional representation, the demand for the necessary credit must be provisionally made to the Prussian Diet, in order that Germany may be enabled, if necessary, to continue the war to the last extremity.

The Lower House of the Prussian Diet decided that Herr Ahleemann and Herr Krüger, members for constituencies in North Schleswig, in consequence of their refusal to take the Constitutional oath, could not take their seats in the House, whereupon both members resigned.

A telegram from Berlin, dated Monday, says:—

It is believed in some diplomatic circles here—and I transmit report without vouching for its accuracy—that the terms actually demanded of France by the Germans will be less onerous than those recently published. The demand for pecuniary indemnity, it is said, will be more in accordance with the financial circumstances of France, and may possibly not exceed a single milliard (£40,000,000). By the same account, no ships of war will be deducted from the indemnity. As for the territorial part of the claim, only Alsace and Lorraine would be demanded. Nothing, however, is known for certain as to the terms of peace; and none of the statements yet put forth are based upon authority.

An official telegram from Versailles announces that Germany does not intend to acquire any French possessions in India, Asia, or across the Atlantic as a condition of peace.

AUSTRIA.

The Emperor has relieved Count Potocki and his colleagues of their functions, and has appointed Count Hohenwart to be Minister of the Interior, with the task of forming a new cis-Leithan Cabinet.

The session of the Austrian Delegation was closed on Monday. The Chancellor of the Empire, in his closing speech, said that the Emperor had sanctioned the Budget for 1871, as agreed upon by the two Delegations, and had commissioned him to thank the Delegation for their unwearied activity. The Chancellor, in conclusion, said that he hoped when, at no distant period, the

Delegations again met, the appearance of affairs in foreign countries would be less sad.

RUSSIA.

Sir Andrew Buchanan, the British Ambassador, was to quit St. Petersburg to-day (Saturday), on a long leave of absence. This fact is viewed as a symptom of the peaceful turn affairs have taken.

ROUMANIA.

The Porte has ordered troops to be concentrated on the Roumanian frontier; intimating, at the same time, to the Powers that the Porte will not interfere so long as the stipulation of the Paris Treaty, which forbids one-sided intervention, is observed by the other signatory Courts.

It is believed in Berlin (we are told in a telegram of last Saturday) that Prince Charles of Roumania is about to quit his capital, notwithstanding the efforts of the Powers to keep him there. The despatch adds that a plebiscite is said to be in preparation at Bucharest to abrogate the Constitution.

SWEDEN.

Swedish papers have published articles on an alleged design of Prussia to obtain Carlscrona as a harbour for her Baltic fleet. According to the *Aftonbladet*, a number of Prussian engineer officers remained for some time last summer on the coast in the vicinity of Carlscrona, under the pretext of superintending the shipping of stone for Prussia from the quarries there. It was observed, however, that their real object was to make a careful survey of the coast; and since then various hints have been thrown out semi-officially by the Prussian Government that it would be prepared to make an arrangement for the cession of Carlscrona by Sweden for a money compensation. It is also stated that some Germans have of late purchased landed property in the vicinity, in view of an arrangement of this kind.

AMERICA.

The newly-appointed United States Minister, General Schenck, has not yet sailed, and may not leave for several weeks. The delay is caused by pending negotiations at Washington respecting the fishery dispute. The Government desires his departure to be postponed until some result is reached. The Senate has confirmed Mr. John Cramer's appointment as United States Minister to Denmark.

President Grant has sent a message to Congress recommending, in view of the growing power and importance of North Germany, that the Berlin mission should be made a first class mission.

A frightful accident occurred on Monday night on the Hudson River Railway. A petroleum-train having caught fire, a passenger-train passing by became ignited, and, rushing on, set fire to and broke down a bridge. Thirty persons are supposed to have been burnt or drowned, and many injured.

The revolutionists in Bolivia have captured and destroyed Potosi. Smallpox is raging in Wauitoba and British Columbia. The United States Darien expedition has discovered a practicable canal route, of which the summit elevation is 300 ft.

THE WAR.

THE military news from the east of France shows the greatness of the disaster which has befallen General Bourbaki's army. It is officially announced that, from the fight at Pontarlier until the 2nd inst., about 15,000 prisoners were made, including two generals, and two eagles and 19 guns captured. The official report of General Billot-Fyon, published at Bordeaux, shows that the French army at last wanted both provisions and ammunition. From the German accounts, it appears that this lack was owing to the capture of many hundred French provision and ammunition waggons. At Bordeaux great indignation is expressed at the Germans continuing hostilities against the French army while the latter were in the act of entering Switzerland, literally firing into the crowds of fugitive soldiers, though the convention between the French General Clincham and the Swiss General Herzog had been notified to General von Manteuffel. The carnage was horrible, and Pontarlier was full of dead. The first train of French troops arrived at Berne on the 2nd inst. There is great crowding and confusion on the frontier, but the Federal Council has taken all necessary measures for internment and feeding the French prisoners, who suffer greatly from cold and hunger. The French artillery has arrived on Swiss territory.

The following is given as the substance of the convention between Generals Clincham and Herzog:—The artillery, arms, equipments, and munitions of the captive French army will be restored to France after the peace and the definitive settlement of the expenses caused to Switzerland. The provision and baggage waggons will return to France after having been emptied. The treasury and postal waggons are to be remitted to the Confederation, which will carry them to the account of the ultimate financial settlement. Staff officers are to receive 6f. and regimental officers 4f. a day. The sergeants will receive 25c. and the privates 10c. daily pay. The rations will consist of 1 lb. of meat and 1 1/2 lb. of bread and vegetables. As to discipline, the interned soldiers are subject to the Swiss military code.

General Bourbaki is quite out of danger. The wound in his head is healing slowly.

General Cremer effected his retreat from Pontarlier in the direction of Gex, through Fancelle; but, on account of the bad state of the roads, he was obliged to abandon forty guns, which he previously spiked.

The whole department of the Côte d'Or, exclusive of the Seine, has been occupied by the troops under the command of General von Hann. Lons-le-Saulnier was evacuated on the 5th by General Pellissier.

Belfort is still being vigorously bombarded, and is expected to surrender shortly.

The *Echo du Nord* complains that the Prussians have entered Fécamp, Dieppe, and Honfleur, and that they have passed through Yvetot, apparently on their way to Havre. The service of steamers, however, between Havre and Honfleur has been resumed.

The *Francia* says that the Prussians were no sooner masters of the positions which they obtained through the armistice than they hastened to construct defensive works.

An order has been issued by General Faidherbe disbanding all the *Francs-Tirailleurs* in the north of France.

The troops taken prisoners at Paris are about 180,000; the fortress guns captured, 1500; field pieces and mitrailleuses, 400. The gun-boats on the Seine and the locomotives and rolling stock are likewise appropriated by the victors.

A letter from Versailles says that should the French determine, at the expiration of the armistice, to continue the war, the German arrangements for overrunning France from end to end will be found terribly effective. According to one report, Count Bismarck will ask for the cession of Alsace and Lorraine, except the strip west of Nancy; five milliards for war expenses; two of the best French ironclads; and the destruction of the Paris forts. These terms would be refused should the French prolong their resistance. Meanwhile, although they feel almost sure the war is over, the Germans are preparing for a fresh campaign, and are making arrangements to march on Lyons and Bordeaux. If warlike counsels prevail among the French the complete conquest of France will at once be taken in hand.

MR. HUGHES, M.P., on Monday gave his decision on the wages dispute in the North of England iron trade. The evidence was laid before him by both masters and men, last week, at Darlington, when both sides bound themselves, in connection with the Board of Arbitration, to abide by the hon. gentleman's decision. The masters claimed a reduction of 10 per cent on wages for 1871, the causes alleged being the depression of trade caused by the war. Mr. Hughes has granted a reduction of 6d. per ton on the wages paid to puddlers, and of 5 per cent on the wages paid to other workmen—the reduction to take effect from Jan. 1.

AT THE GATES OF PARIS ON FEB. 3.

THE scene at the Pont de Neuilly was one which will no doubt be described by many able writers; but nothing short of an incessant photograph could give any idea of that picture of what the French would call a *tableau navrant* presented by the crowd upon the bridge with the press of vehicles, men and women hurrying in and out and struggling through the guards with their loads of bread and meat. The very sight of the ruined suburbs is enough to make a man melancholy for life—he who does not belong to any of the houseless families, who has no interest in those villages, nor kith nor kin, and knows not any of their inhabitants. The rich may rebuild, redecorate, and re-establish themselves if ever they can have the heart to return to the sites which are surrounded by the wreck of poor men's dwellings never to be restored; but what are the poor men themselves to do? It seems, however, as if there would be work as long as money lasts for all the masons, slaters, and plasterers, glaziers, builders, upholsterers—for all, in fact, who make houses habitable—in France for many a long day to come. And some sanguine people say that in a year or two the valleys and hills along the Seine will smile again; but even if the timber could spring up and the forests be restored, like Jonah's gourd, can the memories of this terrible occupation die out? The armistice has, however, lent an animation to the roads and to the country long banished from it—not the steady march of troops; not the bustle of columns relieving guards and pickets, and the roll of ammunition-trains; but long lines of rural vehicles moving in and out of the villages, and the development of the energies of the few miserable peasants whose courage or whose necessities kept them within the Prussian lines. Feb. 3 was exceedingly bright, and from the rising ground near Valérien Paris looked as beautiful and as gay as in the full tide of her prosperity. A keener inspection through the glass, however, revealed the emptiness of her streets and the shattered and broken outlines of many a cottage, manufactory, and noble mansion. From these heights one can see the whole extent of the various spurs of the plateau on the south side from Bietre, the ridge of Villejuive, Montrouge, Vanvres, and Issy, with the heights still above them crested with the Prussian batteries, and the ruins of St. Cloud near at hand. Beneath the Seine, with its bridges broken, and the Bois de Boulogne, along the broad roads of which are creeping a few men and women gathering sticks. Baron Rothschild's château appears untouched; and Bagatelle, the rustic windmill, and the Grand Stand recall the days not long passed, when the splendour of the Empire and its *luxe effréné* displayed themselves at glittering reviews or at the crowded *receptions*. A battery now disfigures the green sward at the rear of the Grand Stand, and others peer curiously out of the black embrasures at the desolation around them. Not a sentry was visible on the French side, but at Sèvres they did come to the verge of the river. The clearness of the day brought out all the garrison of Valérien, and the slopes were covered with soldiers, and the crest of the work swarmed with men. At Garches carriages and an escort of mounted men and a knot of staff officers outside the hospital announced that some great person was visiting at the time the poor people who have a refuge there, or, more probably still, the wounded who dispute with the almshouse the possession of the building due to the bounty of M. Bazin. Suresne, below Valérien, was fully occupied by the Prussians, and the fine road which runs along the bank of the river up to the bridge of Neuilly was lined by sentries. The manufactories on the left-hand side were also occupied by troops. Puteaux was in full garrison. These are favourite resorts of Parisian cockneys, and the signs over wine-shops, rural public-houses, and pleasure-gardens recall days which must now leave nothing but sad memories. Nearly all the shops were closed, but already industry was developing itself. French peasants from St. Germain were selling butter, which looked like a combination of cheese, lard, and mortar, at 40 sous a pound, and white bread at 20 sous for a very small loaf. The houses bore traces of having been used by the French as barracks, and white walls were blackened with the smoke of bivouac fires in the open streets. The parapets of the bridge of Neuilly were crowded by an immense mass of people, mostly in blouses, and at a distance the appearance was that of London Bridge as seen from Waterloo, the tops of the vehicles moving slowly along just visible above the parapets; or, rather, the heads of the pedestrians who lined them. The great mass of the people were bent upon getting into Paris, and the article most sought after was white bread. At the extremity of the bridge was erected a stout palisade, with a narrow entrance and a narrow exit. This was guarded by soldiers of the landwehr, in charge of a young officer who spoke French fluently, smoked violently, and met the entreaties of the crowd of men and women who sought to pass with great coolness and good humour. The large house on the left of the bridge was literally besieged with persons whose passes were to be visited by the Prussian commandant. At last the gates were closed, and the applicants were admitted, one by one, to see Parisians entreating for the right to enter their own city; women almost weeping and men using all the arts of persuasion, and all in vain, unless their passport was *en règle*; and when a happy person was admitted into the space beyond the barricade he was closely surrounded by a clamorous crowd, holding out their hands and entreating—no doubt, often half in bitter jest—for some of the provisions he carried.—*Special Correspondent of the "Times."*

THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE.

M. SHERER, a well-known and able writer in *Le Temps*, who has resided in Versailles during the Prussian occupation, and whose reputation as a man of clear intelligence and admirable critical faculties is established, writes in *L'Union Libérale* the following article upon the new Constituent Assembly:—

"A Constituent Assembly will meet at Bordeaux under circumstances of an unexampled character. Every question will be submitted at once, and all will require an immediate solution. The Assembly, by the terms of the Convention concluded between M. Favre and M. de Bismarck, is summoned to decide whether the war shall continue or peace shall be made. But, before approaching this first point, the Assembly will be called upon to provide France with a Government, since the actual Government is but provisional, and as without a Government the country can no more treat for peace than it could continue the war. The Assembly will, therefore, have, in the first instance, to form a Government, and, as a consequence, will have to decide what shall be the form of that Government. This is the capital question, one which is supreme above all others—even the question of peace or war—for the point to be decided is no less than whether France is again to be plunged into a course of dynastic adventures, or whether she will definitively take a place among virile and established nations, resolved to remain masters of their own destinies. For ourselves, we entertain no doubt as to the answer which should be given to that question. France is now a Republic, and must remain such. France ought to retain a Republican form, because that is the natural and necessary government for a people which has no longer a monarchy. The monarchy is dead in France. It is dead because it has failed in its task; it is dead because it has proved itself to be powerless; it is dead because being, as we were told, designed to ensure order, it has always produced revolution. Finally, it is dead because all the dynasties which we have tried have disappeared, and a dynasty is not to be created by a legislative act. France must remain a Republic for another reason—because she is weary of revolution, and the Republic alone can preserve her against fresh ones. In this respect the Republic resembles universal suffrage. The great advantage of universal suffrage is that it renders all attempts at violent change as culpable as they are useless. What right is there to rise in insurrection against the decision of the majority? So with respect to the Republic. It is the Government of all by all; and therefore it would be a sort of impiety to seek to substitute for it the government of all by a few or by a single individual.

But there is still a further reason why France seeks to adopt definitively that form of government to which she returns always as the form best adapted to her genius. That reason is that the Republic is the government of a matured people. Every other kind of government supposes that a nation is not in a condition to manage its own affairs. Thus it is towards the Republic that the movements of all societies are tending. It then appears to us that, amidst the fearful misfortunes through which we have passed, and the humiliations to which the Empire has condemned us, there would be for us a revival, the only one of which we are capable at this moment, but at the same time the noblest and the most worthy, to place us in the first rank of free nations. Let us endeavour to give to the Old World a spectacle which hitherto it has been compelled to seek alone in the New—let us prove that Republican institutions are not incompatible with the extent of a great country. France in past days has had its Republic eloquent, headstrong, violent. Let her to-day establish a sound, moderate, liberal Republic—one which will respect all interests, will guarantee order, and will exercise better than any preceding authority all the functions of government, and France will have made the greatest and most solid of her conquests."

A VISIT TO MONT VALÉRIEN.

HERR WACHENHUSEN likens his visit to Mont Valérien to calling upon a neighbour with whom you may have been living on unfriendly terms. The old gentleman, however, had ceased growling, and consequently the troops had lost that feeling of respect with which he had been wont to inspire them. The most convenient route through Sèvres being still obstructed by the defensive works of the Germans, that through Ville d'Avray and St. Cloud was selected. On passing at once over the bridge across the roadway, they came upon a monument of the skill of their "Adornment Society" in the shape of a barricade gate very strongly and solidly constructed, which, however, Herr Wachenhausen doubts will be allowed to remain by the Parisians. The road leads through the ruins of a farm-house, and the village of Garches, which played an important part in the engagement of the 19th, and the houses and buildings of which had to be given over to the flames. "Ruins to the right, ruins to the left, along the snow-clad road. The bare walls of the houses peered into the streets from their orlless eyes; the roof-trees smashed by the shells of Valérien were lost in the lower stories; the fronts of the most elegant houses were torn down, revealing sofas, fauteuils, beds, and innocent infant chairs, and telling the passing stern warrior how some quiet and happy family had once lived here." The former inhabitants of the villages, however, have begun to return to their devastated homesteads. Carrying a miserable bundle in their hands or upon their shoulders, they seek their hearths once more, rejoicing in the fact that French shot have done the damage, as in passing many a German may have been struck down by it. The whole roadway to Ville d'Avray and St. Cloud was filled with these returning immigrants. What do they care whether Prussian soldiers bar their passage still; in a few short years they will be repaid with bloody interest. Arriving at St. Cloud from Garches dense volumes of smoke rolled up over the trees of the park. "Everywhere destruction. The grenades of Mont Valérien had battered down whole houses, and the fronts of those that still remained were blackened with smoke, the whole presenting a perfect scene of desolation. The street leading to the Seine was one continuous ruin, and the whole of the little town, once a paradise, was now a wreck. A thick coating of snow covered the ruins, but in places the flames still shot up, or a glowing mass peeped out from the white covering." People were walking about on the other side of the river and anxiously gazing across. Boats were on the river, and some people were fishing. The beautiful suspension-bridge across the Seine has been totally destroyed. The road up to Valérien leads to the left past Suresne. The snow-flakes were falling, the vineyards on the sides of the hill were shrouded in white, and the Pavillon des Panoramas seemed to look down in disdain upon the travellers. The barracks of Valérien could only be distinguished in faint outlines. Constantly ascending a winding road, the first glacis was reached at length. The artillerymen were busy at this spot picking up the hard ground under the direction of an officer in search of torpedoes, a few powder-canisters with the fuses cut off having been found already. The guard behind the gateway of the fort had not been relieved since the previous day. From this plateau immense walls rear their nearly perpendicular heights, giving a good idea of the formidable nature of the place. Dirt, neglect, and carelessness were everywhere visible on the plateau. The 46th were just engaged in getting things straight. The French had had time to carry off every portable object, and at the same time to break and befool everything in their wonted manner. The mirrors in the officers' rooms had been broken by shots from revolvers; tables, chairs, settees, all had disappeared. The sailors who had held the fort had done all they could to upset the usual theory about them—viz., that cleanliness and order were their chief characteristics—for the whole place was no better than a pigsty. All the buildings of the forts surpassed our previous conception of them in the magnitude of their position; but, according to the opinion of engineers and artillerymen, the fortifications were very incomplete, and not carried out to the full extent of the plan. Doubtless the impregnable position of the fort, as regards its being taken by assault, contributed largely to its unfinished state. On the other hand, the careful disposition and concealment of the barracks and magazines showed that they had some fears of the effects of the German batteries in the neighbourhood of St. Cloud. Iron tramways had been laid down along the whole plateau from one point to another for moving the heavy guns, and at all the most important spots there are turntables. The space for the men is rough and impractical. The dwelling of the commandant had scarcely a single whole pane of glass in it. It is said that at the commencement there was a great scarcity of water, but the well appeared now to be very fully supplied. The number of guns found there is about 100 or 110, principally 24-pounders, with a few 8-pounders. In the large armoury only about fifty muskets, tabatières and flint locks, but large quantities of sabres and sword-bayonets; besides which a number of iron bedsteads, and in one particular part a quantity of tents were found. For the rest, *tabula rasa*. Of the former garrison nothing remained except two men, who were retained as guides; a marine, who had probably overslept himself, and was found hidden among the mattresses; and a dog that was waiting for the return of his master from one of the loopholes. A number of the men were drunk when they left. The whole of the fort had been searched, but nothing beyond the torpedoes mentioned had been discovered to indicate the existence of a mine. There were no signs here, of course, of the damage that the other forts had experienced; for with Valérien the tables had been turned, he having done the mischief to the Germans, instead of the reverse. No view was to be obtained from the summit of Mont Valérien, on account of the hazy atmosphere. On reaching the spot again where the guard were placed the ten Japanese officers were seen standing there, in plain clothes, awaiting permission to inspect the fort. The men could not understand that these little fellows, with their cunning yellow faces, could be officers, and consequently exchanged their sentiments freely with one another respecting this remarkable people. The most interesting sight was, naturally, the great "ruffian" of Mont Valérien, the enormous gun that had hurled its gigantic "sugar-loaves" a full German mile. The gun stands in a strongly-protected circle on its iron carriage, and thrusts its long neck out over the side of the fort. The lock and sight had been taken off by the French on retiring from the fort, but they were subsequently found amongst a heap of other articles. Some call this gun "La Grande Josephine," others "La Valérie;" but there was no name engraved on it. On the other hand, the words "Tiré, 147 coups" were marked on its surface, although it must certainly have been fired more than 147 times.

WAR SKETCHES.

OUR war sketches this week require little in the way of explanation—they speak for themselves. That shell from the forts of Paris bursting in the midst of the German field-post at St. Cloud seems to have startled them considerably, as well it might, their wonted cool, phlegmatic courage notwithstanding. Of the destruction wrought by these deadly messengers at St. Cloud, as well as all round Paris, the description of Valérien and its vicinity, which we copy from Herr Wachenhausen, will serve as a specimen, and we need not repeat the sorrowful details.

Our other Engraving, showing the Germans engaged in forming intrenchments on the north side of the city, in the vicinity of St. Denis, shows how well the warriors of Fatherland can handle those valuable auxiliaries of the cannon and the rifle—the pickaxe and the spade. Had the French used them as freely at Orleans, Le Mans, and elsewhere, perhaps they might have been able to ensure a different result for the encounters on those battlefields. But it seems to have been one of the many fatalities—or blunders—attending the French operations during this campaign, that enough was never made, by intrenchments and otherwise, of the naturally strong positions they often occupied; and that no experience seemed to teach them the folly of neglecting this and other precautions.

Our third illustration, though connected with the war, represents an essentially peaceful scene. In the Royal palace at Hanover—once the abode of the most implacable German foe of Prussia—there was lately held a bazaar for the sale of ladies'

work, the proceeds of which were devoted to the relief of the sick and wounded. The bazaar was a great success, the crowds who flocked to the saloons of the ex-King of Hanover seemingly having totally forgotten both him and his yet unsettled quarrel with the Emperor-King who despoiled him of his dominions. The other German Princes have been wiser in their day and generation than was George Frederick Augustus, whilom of Hanover, and who, if he persists in his enmity to the new Emperor, may yet, perchance, be glad to revert to his British titles of Duke of Cumberland and Earl of Armagh. At all events, if one may judge by their demeanour during this war, and by the readiness with which some of them contributed articles for sale at the late bazaar and others brought them there, the people of Hanover care little for their dethroned Sovereign, and seem to bear lightly the loss his exile entailed.

PARIS AFTER THE CAPITULATION.

THE correspondent of the *Daily News* with the Army of the Crown Prince of Saxony was the first outsider to make his way into the French capital after the capitulation, and, in a letter dated the 1st inst., he thus describes what he saw and heard there:—

"Leaving St. Denis yesterday forenoon, I rode through the Prussian foreposts to the neutral ground without interruption, and so on to the Porte La Chapelle. Here the gates were closed, but a great crowd had collected in expectation of their presently open-

ing. Everybody on the German side laughed at the Quixotry of my attempt to enter. The crowd was orderly, civil, and very patient too. Many people had loaves and cabbages. After waiting half an hour, an officer appeared on the wall, and exclaimed, 'À la porte de Santos.' We all therefore made to the right, I, being mounted, beating the others. This gate was open, and an officer was examining passes. I rode on slowly, looking straight between my horse's ears, and somehow nobody stopped me. Once inside, I came in upon sundry mobs of semi-drunk National Guards, and the cry was, 'Down with the Prussian.' Matters got serious. The clamour spread, and men tried to clutch at my bridle. I thought it wiser to be bold, and turned on the first man who had shouted, and proclaimed that I was an Englishman, come if possible to do good, not harm, and thus succeeded in diverting attention to my assailant. Then I rode on unmolested through the Boulevard Arnaud (?), where were massed several battalions of the National Guard, apparently to receive their pay; then through the Boulevard Magenta; and so straight on to the American Legation in the Champs Elysées.

"Paris is utterly cowed; fairly beaten"—so said the first Englishman I met; and his opinion is mine. Yet Paris is orderly and decent, and with a certain solemn morose self-restraint mastering the tendency to demonstrate. The streets were crowded, almost wholly with men in uniform. Civilians were few and far between. Many shops were open, but many also were closed. There is no want of hardware in Paris. You may buy enough and to spare of anything except edibles. Drink is plentiful



THE SIEGE OF PARIS: A PRUSSIAN OUTPOST AT ST. CLOUD.

enough, but except near the gate I saw not a soul drunk. The food shops had nothing to show. There were confections and preserves, jellies, &c.; but solid comestibles were conspicuous by their absence. In one shop I saw several large shapes of stuff that looked like lard. When I asked what it was, I found it was horse fat. The bakers' shops were closed; the grating down before the butchers'. And oh, the number of funerals! One, two, three; I met six altogether in the course of my ride. Sad with an exceeding great sadness; such was what I found as regards Paris long before I reached the American Legation; self-respecting, too, in her misery; not blatant; not disposed to collect in jabbering crowds. Each man went his way with chastened face and listless gait. I spoke with a soldier of the Line. Yes, he had had enough of it. Sacré! They had nearly killed him, these terrible Prussians, and he was very hungry. When would the gates be open for food. Food began to be with me a personal question. I had nearly filled my wallet with newspapers, and only stowed away for an exigency a few slices of ham. Did ever the rarest geological or mineralogical specimen make such a sensation as these slices of ham? When I at length reached my quarters the servant women asked permission to take the meagre plateful out, and show it as a curiosity to their companions; and after the ham was eaten, stray visitors came in, attracted by the tidings, and begged for a look at the unwanted viands.

"The whole city is haunted with the chaste odours which horseflesh gives out in cooking—odours which I learned to appreciate at Metz. They permeate the deserted British Embassy, where, asserting my privileges as a Briton, I stabled my horse; they linger in the corridors of the Grand Hôtel, and fight with the taint from wounds in evil case. The Grand Hôtel is one huge hospital. Half Paris seems converted into hospitals, if one may judge by the flags. There were more than were needed until the southern bombardment began; and then when the hospitals, ambulances, orphanages, and madhouses on the south side had to be evacuated, there was a squeeze on this side of the water. Very touching is the ignorance as to the outside world. 'I have seen three English papers since Septem-

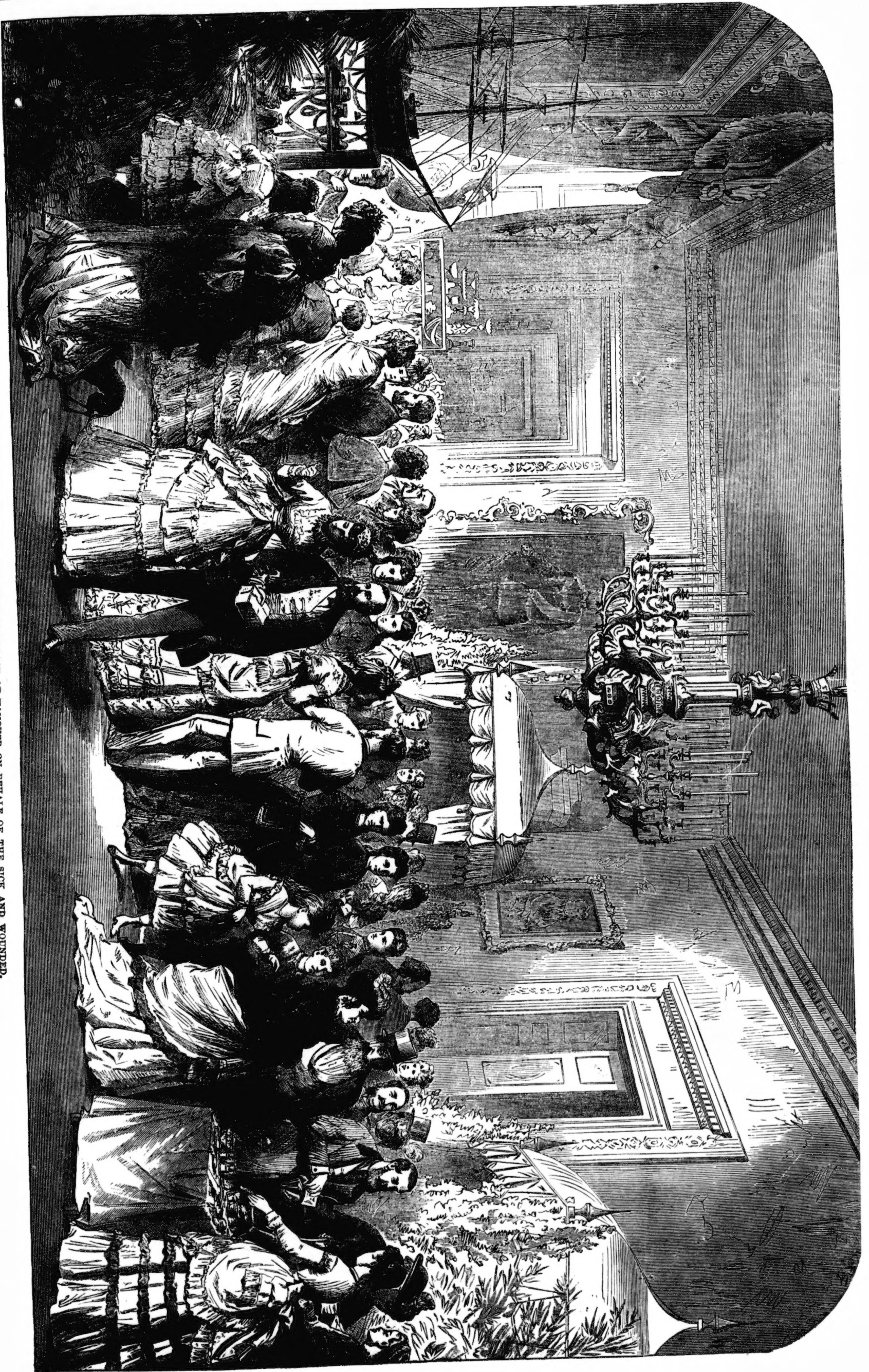
ber,' said Dr. Gordon, our Medical Commissioner. 'Is Ireland quiet? Is Mr. Gladstone still Prime Minister? Is Princess Louise married?' Such are samples of the questions I have had to answer. The ignorance as to the condition of the Prussians outside is equally dense. The day after negotiations began Paris was assured that the investing army had not eaten for three days, and that it was Paris which was granting terms, rather than the other way. I am continually asked if the Prussians have not been half starved all through? What they have done for quarters? Whether there are not 400,000 at the very least surrounding Paris? Whether they do not tremble in their boots at the name of the Francs-Tireurs? Whether they are not half devoured by vermin? Whether the King still resides in Versailles? and so on.

"The pinch for food is worse than ever, pending the result of the negotiations for its supply. The day before yesterday the hungry broke into the reserved store of potted provisions in the Halle, smashed all obstacles, and looted the place. From one who has paid the prices himself, and has the figures down in black and white without exaggeration, I have the following list:—2f. for a small shrivelled cabbage; 1f. for a leek; 45f. for a fowl; 45f. for a rabbit (which may be taken for granted as cat); 25f. for a pigeon; 22f. for a 2lb. chub; 14f. per pound for stickleback; 2f. per pound for potatoes; 40f. per pound for butter; cheese, 25f. a pound, when procurable. Meat other than horseflesh is absolutely not to be procured. I was assured that if I offered £50 down in bright, shining gold for a veritable beef-steak I should have no claimant for the money! The last cow that changed hands 'for an ambulance' fetched £80. Those left cannot now be bought for money. The bread is not bad, the difficulty is to get it. Only people say there is nothing else to do but to wait outside the bakers' and the butchers'. I saw huge throngs at both as I rode through Paris, and chiefly women, waiting silently in the cold. What it must have come to when the Parisians are so utterly crushed down! Last evening there looked in a party that had been experimenting in dining. They had eaten ostrich, cats, dogs, rats, and mice. This seems to me to be a hard-hearted mode of extracting a new sensation out of the pinch of the times. Far

better to dine on horse, and give the price of dainty viands to put bread into the mouths of the poor suffering women and children. Yesterday neither bread nor meat was distributed in this arrondissement. Those who had no money have simply had to hunger. The sins for which Paris used to be famous! all belong to the past. She has been half-starved, half-beaten into morality, or it may be that other than physical influences have led her to wash and be clean. You see some drunkenness, but far less than I had looked for, among men whose clock, so to speak, has run down. A decent gloom is everywhere apparent. Some assert that the gloom is as much theatrical and assumed as had been the previous valorous seeming. I don't think so—I think you can see the iron eating and burning into the hearts of these men—silent with unwonted silence; moody as they never knew how to be before; and as the downcast faces pass I draw a good augury from them for France and Paris.

"The great and beautiful feature of the siege has been the absence of crime. No murders—no robberies; but a virtue in which, to me, there is something pathetic. The half-lit streets are empty by half-past nine. The midnight air is not tortured by the sound of revellers, although there are no police to keep order. I woke up between twelve and one in the night, and the silence made me for the moment think myself back at Margency.

"The trees on the boulevards have suffered less than I expected. In the Champs Elysées they are utterly ruined; and the others elsewhere have, I am told, shared the same fate. The scarcity of wood was terrible in these latter days. People cannot get their washing done for lack of wood to heat the copper. So far as I can learn, the moral effect of the bombardment on the population was terrible. After the first day of defiance the Government felt the pressure. M. Jules Simon told a friend of mine that the bombardment of St. Denis had shortened the siege by a week. Competent authorities estimate that Paris, had she been obstinate, might have gone on for another month, had the pickles and preserves, and all the odds and ends now sold at exorbitant prices, been taken and rationed. But to what purpose?"



THE WAR: LADIES' BAZAAR IN THE PALACE AT HANOVER ON BEHALF OF THE SICK AND WOUNDED.

In a second letter this correspondent gives further details of his experiences. "I got into conversation (he writes), in English, with a man who had been in America, but this had no effect in leading my critics to suppose I was an Englishman. 'These Prussians, sacré, they know every language under the sun,' sententiously remarked an elderly gentleman with a big cabbage under each arm and a pair of red stripes down his legs. My horse shared with me the public interest. But it was not the interest usually attracted towards horses. There was no criticism as to her points, her probable action, or her soundness. No, 'she was a fine fat animal; she must be succulent; how well she would eat! what would I not give for a slice of her?' He was surprised to see so many well-appointed vehicles still in the streets of Paris, with well-conditioned horses. Nor were the omnibuses either few or far between, and their horses were in the best of condition, as were the horses ridden at break-neck speed through the streets by officers who looked, and probably were, transmogrified *petits crêvés*.

The same gentleman, in describing his difficulties in getting out of Paris again, gives the following picture of affairs at the British Embassy:—"I must first get my passport visé at the Embassy. Then I must go to the Prefecture of Police and get a permit, which would probably be refused, and there, there was, after all, the Prussian lines to pass. I thought it wise to have the passport visé, in case of accident. Who could visé it? Oh! Mr. Blount, the banker, had just been appointed British Consul. To Mr. Blount's I went. A respectable man told me that was the wrong shop; I must go to the Embassy and get my business done there. To the Embassy I went accordingly. A porter, mopping the stairs, was the sole representative visible of her Britannic Majesty. He sent me into a room, and presently a little man in slippers arrived, who told me he had been summoned from some cleaning operations up stairs, and was in a muddle. Inside his velvet coat was concentrated the representation of Ambassador, Attaché, Consul, and the British flag generally, including the lion and the unicorn. He produced the seal, and had to spit on the unused wad to get juice enough for the impression. With much mental perturbation, arising from thick ink and a defective acquaintance with the art of penmanship, he succeeded in achieving my skeleton credentials, and then said I must go to Mr. Blount and get his signature attached. Rather a scrappy way of getting accredited as a free-born British Christian, I thought, especially when I thought of the big house and the bigger item in the Estimates. However, I went to Mr. Blount, who was remarkably civil for a Consul, and owned, with ingenious candour, to an utter ignorance of his new duties. He knew enough, however, to attach his name to the vicinity of the imposing stamp, and then advised me to go the Prefecture."

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT BY THE QUEEN.

HER MAJESTY, with Princesses Louise and Beatrice and Prince Leopold, and attended by Colonel de Ros and Lady Churchill, left Windsor on Thursday morning, by special train on the Great Western Railway, en route for Buckingham Palace. The Royal party were received at the Paddington terminus by the deputy chairman, Mr. C. A. Wood, and some other directors of the company. Beyond the Royal carriages, a few extra policemen, and a detachment of Hussars, there was nothing to indicate that the Queen was expected. There were but few people around the entrance gates, and they were not particularly demonstrative. Hats were raised and handkerchiefs waved, and there was a cheer as the carriages drove off. Here and there along the route to Buckingham Palace there were small knots of people waiting, and, as St. James's Park was approached, these knots became more frequent, and her Majesty's reception seemed to be warmer. The weather was delightful.

Towards two o'clock the Queen drove to Westminster, and opened the Parliamentary Session with the following speech, which was read by the Lord Chancellor:—

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

At an epoch of such moment to the future fortunes of Europe, I am especially desirous to avail myself of your counsels.

The war which broke out, in the month of July, between France and Germany, has raged, until within the last few days, with unintermitted and likewise with unexampled force; and its ravages may be renewed, after but a few days more, unless moderation and forethought, prevailing over all impediments, shall sway the councils of both the parties whose well-being is so vitally concerned.

At the time when you separated I promised a constant attention to the subject of neutral obligations; and I undertook to use my best endeavours to prevent the enlargement of the area of war; and to contribute, if opportunity should offer, to the restoration of an early and honourable peace.

In accordance with the first of these declarations, I have maintained the rights and strictly discharged the duties of neutrality.

The sphere of the war has not been extended beyond the two countries originally engaged.

cherishing with care the cordiality of my relations with each belligerent, I have forbore from whatever might have been construed as gratuitous or unwarranted interference between parties neither of whom had shown a readiness to propose terms of accommodation such as to bear promise of acceptance by the other.

I have been enabled, on more than one occasion, to contribute towards placing the representatives of the two contending countries in confidential communication; but, until famine compelled the surrender of Paris, no further result had been obtained.

The armistice now being employed for the convocation of an Assembly in France has brought about a pause in the constant accumulation, on both sides, of human suffering, and has rekindled the hope of a complete accommodation. I pray that this suspension may result in a peace compatible, for the two great and brave nations involved, with security and with honour, and likely therefore to command the approval of Europe, and to give reasonable hopes of a long duration.

It has been with concern that I have found myself unable to accredit my Ambassador in a formal manner to the Government of Defence, which has existed in France since the revolution of September; but neither the harmony nor the efficiency of the correspondence of the two States has been in the smallest degree impaired.

The King of Prussia has accepted the title of Emperor of Germany at the instance of the chief authorities of the nation.

I have offered my congratulations on an event which bears testimony to the solidity and independence of Germany, and which, I trust, may be found conducive to the stability of the European system.

I have endeavoured, in correspondence with other Powers of Europe, to uphold the sanctity of treaties, and to remove any misapprehension as to the binding character of their obligations.

It was agreed by the Powers which had been parties to the Treaty of 1856 that a Conference should meet in London. This Conference has now been for some time engaged in its labours; and I confidently trust that the result of its deliberations will be to uphold both the principles of public right and the general policy of the treaty, and at the same time, by the revision of some of its conditions in a fair and conciliatory spirit, to exhibit a cordial co-operation among the Powers with regard to the Levant.

I greatly regret that my earnest efforts have failed to procure the presence at the Conference of any representative of France, which was one of the chief parties to the Treaty of 1856, and which must ever be regarded as a principal and indispensable member of the great Commonwealth of Europe.

At different times several questions of importance have arisen, which are not yet adjusted, and which materially affect the relations between the United States and the territories and people of British North America. One of them in particular, which concerns the Fisheries, calls for early settlement, lest the possible indiscretion of individuals should impair the neighbourly understanding which it is on all grounds so desirable to cherish and maintain. I have therefore engaged in amicable communications with the President of the United States. In order to

determine the most convenient mode of treatment for these matters, I have suggested the appointment of a joint Commission; and I have agreed to a proposal of the President that this Commission shall be authorised, at the same time and in the same manner, to resume the consideration of the American claims growing out of the circumstances of the late war. This arrangement will, by common consent, include all claims for compensation which have been made, or may be made, by each Government, or by its citizens, upon the other.

The establishment of a Prince of the house of Savoy on the throne of Spain by the free choice of the popularly-elected representatives of the Spanish nation will, I trust, ensure for a country which has passed with so much temperance and self-control through a prolonged and trying crisis the blessings of a stable government.

I am, unhappily, unable to state that the inquiry which was instituted by the Government of Greece into the history of the shocking murders perpetrated during the last spring at Dilessi has reached a termination answerable in all respects to my just expectations; but I shall not desist from my endeavours to secure the complete attainment of the object of the inquiry. Some valuable results, however, have in the mean time been obtained for the exposure and the repression of a lawless and corrupting system, which has too long afflicted the Greek peninsula.

The anxiety which the massacre at Tien-Tsin, on June 21 last, called forth has happily been dispelled; and while it will be my earnest endeavour to provide for the security of my subjects and their trade in those remote quarters, I count on your concurrence in the policy that I have adopted of recognising the Chinese Government as entitled to be dealt with in its relations with this country in a conciliatory and forbearing spirit.

The Parliamentary recess has been one of anxious interest in regard to foreign affairs. But I rejoice to acquaint you that my relations are, as heretofore, those of friendship and good understanding with the Sovereigns and States of the civilised world.

Papers illustrative of the conduct of my Government in relation to the several matters on which I have now summarily touched will be duly laid before you.

In turning to domestic affairs, I have first to inform you that I have approved of a marriage between my daughter Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorn, and I have declared my consent to this union in Council.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

The revenue of the country flourishes, and the condition of trade and industry may, though with partial drawbacks, be declared satisfactory. The Estimates for the coming year will be promptly laid before you.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

The lessons of military experience afforded by the present war have been numerous and important.

The time appears appropriate for turning such lessons to account by efforts more decisive than heretofore at practical improvement. In attempting this you will not fail to bear in mind the special features in the position of this country so favourable to the freedom and security of the people; and if the changes from a less to a more effective and elastic system of defensive military preparation shall be found to involve, at least for a time, an increase of various charges, your prudence and patriotism will not grudge the cost, as long as you are satisfied that the end is important and the means judicious. No time will be lost in laying before you a bill for the better regulation of the Army and the auxiliary land forces of the Crown, and I hardly need commend it to your anxious and impartial consideration.

I trust that the powerful interest at present attaching to affairs abroad and to military questions will not greatly abate the energy with which you have heretofore applied yourselves to the work of general improvement in our domestic legislation.

I commend anew to your attention several measures on subjects which I desired to be brought before you during the last Session of Parliament, but which the time remaining at your disposal, after you had dealt with the principal subjects of the year, was not found sufficient to carry to a final issue.

I refer especially to the Bills on Religious Tests in the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, on Ecclesiastical Titles, on the Disabilities of Trade Combinations, on the Courts of Justice and Appeal, on the Adjustment of Local Burdens, and on the Licensing of Houses for the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors.

The inquiry made by a Committee of the Commons House being now complete, a measure will be placed before you on an early day for the establishment of secret voting.

A proposal is anxiously expected in Scotland for the adjustment of the question of primary education. With reference to the training of the young in schools on a national scale and basis, that portion of the country has special claims on the favourable consideration of Parliament; and I trust the year may not pass by without your having disposed of this question by the enactment of a just and effective law.

The condition of Ireland with reference to agrarian crime has, in general, afforded a gratifying contrast with the state of that island in the preceding winter; but there have been painful though very partial exceptions.

To secure the best results for the great measures of the two last Sessions which have so recently passed into operation, and which involve such direct and pressing claims upon the attention of all classes of the community, a period of calm is to be desired; and I have thought it wise to refrain from suggesting to you at the present juncture the discussion of any political question likely to become the subject of new and serious controversy in that country.

The burdens devolving upon you as the great council of the nation and of this ancient and extended empire are, and must long continue to be, weighty. But you labour for a country whose laws and institutions have stood the test of time, and whose people, earnestly attached to them and desiring their continuance, will unite with their Sovereign in invoking upon all your designs the favour and aid of the Most High.

When the Lord Chancellor had finished reading the Speech the Queen rose from the throne, and, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and the Princesses, left the House, which was speedily cleared of the brilliant company which had occupied it for two hours and a half. Her Majesty was conducted back to the Peers' entrance, where the Royal carriages were in waiting, and returned to Buckingham Palace.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House of Lords met again at five o'clock. There was a large attendance of Peers.

The Marquis of WESTMINSTER moved the Address in reply to the Royal Speech, and at some length reviewed the points therein alluded to.

The Earl of ROSEBURY seconded the Address.

The Duke of RICHMOND congratulated the mover and reconnector of the Address on the manner in which they had acquitted themselves.

Earl GRANVILLE explained the policy of the Government with respect to the Conference and their non-intervention with respect to the war.

After a few observations from the Earl of Hardwicke with respect to the Navy, the motion was agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The members of the House of Commons began to assemble as early as twelve o'clock. The Speaker took the chair at a quarter to two o'clock, and at ten minutes past two Sir Augustus Clifford, Usher of the Black Rod, appeared at the bar, and, advancing to the table, summoned the attendance of the Speaker and hon. members in the House of Peers by command of her Majesty. The Speaker, accompanied by Mr. Gladstone and a host of other hon. gentlemen, accordingly proceeded to the House of Lords to hear the Speech from the Throne.

In the evening the House presented a most animated appearance, the benches on both sides being crowded.

The Speaker having read her Majesty's Speech, Mr. HAMILTON moved the Address in answer to the Queen's Speech, and in doing so referred to the various topics touched upon in it.

Mr. S. MORLEY seconded the motion.

Mr. DISRAELI, having reviewed the circumstances which led to the declaration of war, said, had the Government in July last acted with more firmness, and declared that they intended to keep an armed neutrality, he believed there would have been no war. He next reviewed the foreign policy of the Government, and condemned it for not protesting against the abrogation of treaties. He was never an alarmist, but he could not help

seeing that the position of England with foreign Powers was very different to what it was fifty years ago. He feared that the commerce and wealth of the kingdom excited envy. He trusted that the same combination would not be entered into as that which took place against Venice, and which led to her decadence. The great source of England's strength was her possession of the sinews of war. We were in possession of equal rights and of commercial and religious liberty, and we should not easily yield such a pre-eminent position. It was of importance that we should show to Europe and America a united Parliament; and, though there might be minor differences, there was no difference on vital points, such as a sufficient military and naval establishment.

Mr. GLADSTONE would show that there was no foundation for much of what Mr. Disraeli had stated. Shortly a statement would be laid before the House which would explain satisfactorily the course the Government had taken in the present crisis. With respect to the demand of Russia relative to the treaty he believed that the public generally approved of the attitude taken by Lord Granville. With respect to the charge against the Government that it maintained in this war a wrong neutrality, instead of an armed neutrality, and that the Government could not assume an armed neutrality because of the unwise reductions we had made in the Army and Navy, he answered that an armed neutrality, instead of stopping war, would have provoked war. Were we to use strong language, and tell France we should not support it by going to war? If we had interfered, France would certainly have resented an unwarranted intrusion. He contended that the Government had discharged the whole of its duty, and were not subject to censure.

After some observations from Mr. Newdegate and Sir J. Elphinstone, the motion was agreed to.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1871.

THE WORKMEN'S THREE DUTIES.

THE second part of Mr. Ruskin's "Fors Clavigera, Letters addressed to the Workmen and Labourers of Great Britain," makes such sudden "tangential" sweeps that cautious readers will wait for the April or even the May number before they attempt to form any general opinion of the scope of the letters. But the last winds up by calling upon the persons addressed to promise three things:—"1. To do your own work well, whether it be for life or death. 2. To help other people to do theirs when you can, and seek to avenge no injury. 3. To be sure you can obey good laws before you seek to alter bad ones."

Number one and number two of these points speak for themselves; they are in themselves noble, and Mr. Ruskin puts them worthily. But at the third one stumbles. How can any human being be sure he can obey good laws? And if he could be sure of it, why should he wait for the certainty before trying to get the bad ones altered? There is something in the spirit of the suggestion which commands a response; but we cannot receive the formula. Suppose a cruel ogre were misruling a given land; is no Jack the Giant-Killer to stir a finger to remove the ogre, unless he is certain he can obey any wise and good ruler who may get put in the ogre's place? Whether there are or are not certain forms of anarchy which are preferable to certain forms of despotism is an open question. Mr. Ruskin may have—readers of his writings know that he has—very strong opinions of his own in favour of a strong government *quand même*; but not even his splendid powers, his pathetic and almost preternatural conscientiousness, his wide culture, and his noble achievements, entitle him, especially in dealing with such clients, to treat an open question as one foreclosed for all time.

DR. DALRYMPLE AND HIS BILL.

If the Habitual Drunkards Bill of Dr. Dalrymple is to be as moderate and justifiable a measure as the terms of his address at Norwich the other day would lead us to suppose, it is a thousand pities that he allows the circular to which we lately referred to remain in circulation. Unless his speech is misreported—which we rather fear is the case—all the bill aims at is strictly within the province of State interference. But why, then, permit that wretched prospectus to mislead the public? It is still going the round of the magazines, as ungrammatical, as monstrously absurd from the political point of view, and as much like a last-century tract run mad, as ever.

That there may be no misunderstanding upon a very simple question, let us briefly lay down what we hold the State may do in this matter. First, a drunkard, who is a madman, may already be confined;—many of the inmates of lunatic asylums are insane through drink. Secondly, if a man is disorderly through drink, or if he causes the State trouble and expense by going abroad helplessly drunk, so as to need being officially kept out of mischief, he is fairly punishable. Again, if a man commits a murder or an assault, drunkenness is no excuse at law. Further, if a man neglects to support his wife and family, he is punishable, whatever the cause may be. If a fanatic fool (the case is a real one) runs away from home to preach up Joanna Southcott, and leaves his family to the parish, it is a case for the magistrate. But we punish him, not for being a fanatic, but for neglecting to fulfil a bargain with the State, and for throwing his own burdens on the shoulders of others. "Transmutably the same" (to quote Dickens), if a drunkard lets his family come to the parish, we may justly punish him—for the above reason, though; not for getting drunk, which is nobody's business but his own. In modern times, Bernard Palissy's family might possibly have come upon the rates; but we should have dealt politically with Palissy, not for fanatical pursuit of the enamel, but for breach of political contract.

If Dr. Dalrymple's bill merely proposes to make it pos-

sible in certain cases for habitual drunkards (not "drinkers," as the circular absurdly puts it) to avail themselves, voluntarily, of some kind of reformatory machinery, which is, as a matter of social convenience and expediency, to have State sanction, the idea is quite open to consideration, though the working of such a bill would require to be most carefully regulated. But if that is to be all, why not call in at once the preposterous circular of the society? All we care to get understood is that excessive drinking is by itself no more within the sphere of State control than excessive devoutness, or excessive imaginativeness. The circular refers to the consequences to posterity of a diseased constitution. But, good Heavens, how far is this to go? A recent able writer has maintained that monachism did immense harm by withdrawing from their normal share in the continuation of the race some of the best people of the Middle Ages. This is a topic on which there is much to be said on both sides; but supposing a Dr. Somebody to have got this idea into his head and to have found a following, what should we say to a Bill to prevent people from celibating, and that on the ground of the interests of posterity? To this it must be added, however shockingly it reads, there are some men who seem only to do their best, and to be their best, at the cost of habitual resort to some apparently abnormal stimulant. If Coleridge had not taken opium, should we ever have had the "Ancient Mariner," or "Christabel," or "Kubla Khan."

THE LOUNGER.

SOME "member out of town"—I forget who it was, but no matter—said, the other day, "The Duke of Argyll is so poor that he was obliged to place one of his sons in a merchant's office." The Duke of Argyll has so placed two of his sons—one in a merchant's office in London, and another with a cotton-broker in Liverpool. But was it because he is so poor? This is not, I think, a correct statement. The Duke of Argyll is not poor; he has immense estates; but he has five sons and a house full of daughters, or, as the Germans say, a daughter-full house. There are, I learn from "Debrett," seven of them. May the benign powers bless the ladies with good husbands! By-the-way, one is married already, and married well. Her husband is Earl Percy, the son and heir of the Duke of Northumberland. This young lady, then, is well provided for, and only six remain unmarried and to be portioned, and no doubt the Duke is well able to portion them. But now for the sons. The eldest is to be married, as all the world knows, to Princess Louise, whom, all the insane ravings to the contrary, the House of Commons will handsomely dower. Besides, he will in time—may the time be long!—be Duke of Argyll. There remain, or remained, therefore, four sons—Archibald, born 1846; Walter, 1848; George, 1850; Colin, 1853. I suppose Archibald and Walter are the merchants; and when the time came for these lads to choose a profession, one can imagine the father thus addressing them:—"Well, bairns, the time is come for you to say what you will be. Will you be soldiers or sailors, or will you go in for diplomacy? Your portion won't be large, and neither of these professions offer very brilliant outlooks. Neither of them will enable you to keep yourselves for many years. What say you to the profession of a merchant? We have had fighters plenty in our family, and also diplomats. Suppose you try something new in the aristocratic world; go forth and by honest labour try to achieve your own independence." The lads consented, and all honour to them therefor, and to their illustrious father; and may the sons be successful, and whilst their brother allies himself to a Princess, may they become merchant princes! It is curious that whilst, on the one hand, this noble family is breaking through the divinity which doth hedge a throne, on the other it is leaping over the conventional fence which separates ancient noble families from traders. I prophesy that this example set by the good Duke will soon be extensively followed; and, if this should be so, the younger sons of our aristocracy will have cause to offer up the old prayer, "God bless the Duke of Argyll!" with a new meaning.

A few months ago Mr. Brassey, the railway contractor, shuffled off this mortal coil, leaving behind him £3,200,000 (not £6,500,000, as stated in the papers), besides vast landed estates. It is an enormous sum. There is probably no commoner so rich, and perhaps only one peer—to wit, the Marquis of Westminster—if he is. But what then? Shall we envy the possessor of all this wealth, and get into a delirium of admiration amounting almost to worship? By no means. Let Flunkeydom do that. But we may envy and admire his perseverance, skill, and energy, and talent for organisation. At times, he had, I am told, nearly 20,000 men in his employ; and to keep them all well at work, regularly paid, and organised, required great skill. And, further, for the thousands of miles of railroads that he made we may be grateful. Mr. Brassey made railways in other countries besides the United Kingdom; in France, Spain, Italy, Canada, South America, and probably other places. Railway-making has been certainly profitable to many contractors, but not to all. Here, as in other enterprises, the many fail, the one succeeds. Mr. Brassey was at one time in partnership with Peto and Betts. He succeeded, and they, as we know, failed, as many more did. During the last panic the credit of railway contractors stood very low in the City. An anecdote which I heard when the panic was subsiding shows this. "How are things in the City?" asked a gentleman of a Frenchman connected with railways. "Oh!" he replied; "they are vera much petter. I have seen to-day a great banker open a new account vit a railway contractor!"

The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company have advertised an improvement in their regulations. At present the passage-money covers not only the cost of food, but of spirits, wine, and beer *ad libitum*—i.e., in plain English, without stint. You call for what you like and pay for nothing. But on and after March 18 the passage-money is to be largely reduced, and passengers will have to buy their drink. This is certainly an improvement in every way. Under the present system the temperate people have to pay largely for the drinkers to excess; and, further, many men when they can get drink for nothing are very apt to drink more than they require.

At Sharnbrook, a village in Bedfordshire, with a population of about 1000, the inhabitants have done a notable thing, worthy of being known and imitated. There is a Church school there. To keep it going and make it commensurate with the wants of the parish, and so to keep clear of a school board, Mr. Gibbard, a county squire, offered to subscribe £400. This was a tempting offer; but at a parish meeting, regularly convened to take the matter into consideration, the gift was respectfully declined, and a proposition, "That it is expedient that a school board should be formed," was unanimously carried. The resolution was moved by Charles Magniac, Esq., M.P., whose seat is in the parish, seconded by the Baptist minister, and warmly supported by the Curate. The Vicar was present but did not speak. But Mr. Magniac, in his speech, said "the Vicar would prefer that the school should remain as it is, a Church of England school, worked with a conscience clause; but he felt that the Church must go with popular education, and not try to stop the stream." Oh, that all Vicars were like this Vicar! But, patience! I foretold in these

columns, when the School Bill was passed, that the rate-supported schools would in time absorb the denominational, and, you see, here the work is already begun. The burden of denominational schools falls upon a few. The burden of rate-supported schools is borne equally by all the inhabitants rated to the poor. And we may be quite sure, as sure as we are of the working of a natural law, that even in agricultural villages the people who now bear the burden will be anxious to make all bear it alike. In towns, when rate-supported schools shall become established, it is, I think, certain that the clergy will find their subscription-lists gradually evaporating. Many Churchmen are very zealous now for the religious instruction of the poor—or rather say dogmatic teaching of the poor, which may or may not be religious. Certainly it is not always religious—if religious teaching be the cultivation of religious feelings and principles—as many know who look back with something like disgust, if not horror, at the teaching of that sort which they had forced into their minds in the days of their childhood. But when said Churchmen come to have to pay the rate as well as the subscription, their zeal, I fancy, will cool, especially when they discover that the clergy may give religious—i.e., dogmatic—instruction to the children in the rate-supported schools—at least, to those whose parents wish them to be taught; only the instruction must not be given in regular school-hours. Besides this, are not English people getting rather cold towards Church dogmas? I think I see everywhere signs of this; nay, a Bishop of the Church—the late Bishop of Hereford—has said that the fundamental dogmas—the Trinity, Original Sin, and some others, "are not found in the New Testament; they are human inventions; they were made by the Greek and Latin fathers of the early Church, or by the schoolmen of the Middle Ages. We can show you the workshop in which they were made." Thus spake Bishop Hampden; and thus speak, more or less directly, every Sunday a large and increasing number of the clergy. And, this being so, may we not expect that the zeal for these dogmas, now, I fancy, cooling, will grow colder and colder, until the alleged necessity for denominational schools will cease to exist, and the schools be absorbed by the rate-supported schools? It seems to me that this consummation, devoutly to be wished, lies no great way ahead of us; and I think that probably Mr. Forster foresaw this when, to get his bill passed, he consented to preserve the denominational schools.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES, ETC.

It was with a deep regret, which will be widely shared, that I heard of the death of Mr. T. W. Robertson; with whom, until the last year or so, I had had a good deal of casual intercourse. I remember him soon after he first came to London, and heartily rejoiced in his growing prosperity. He had a frankness which sometimes went so near to the verge of bluntness, and yet fell short of it, as to make you feel you had a gentleman to deal with. In a word, I always liked him. What he wanted, as a writer, was more purely intellectual power, of so to speak, overseeing and moulding his own writing; and many a time did I half-playfully offer to do the shaping part of the work if he would hand me over certain MSS. of his which I greatly admired. He was a very pleasant-looking fellow.

To take, as promised, the two numbers of the *Contemporary Review* together, I begin by saying that Mr. Haweis, on "Music and Morals," is as admirable both in design and execution as his reputation in writing of this order would lead you to expect. But, strong as is the case he makes out, the reader will probably feel, as I do, that the relation of the artistic temperament to "morals" is here dealt with but one-sidedly. There are plenty of people of that temperament who are not "moral" in the sense of obeying every empirical generalisation or rule, who have yet conscience and goodness enough to cut up into ninety-and-nine "moral" persons who need no repentance. The figures Mr. Haweis gives as to the longevity of artists are so suggestive of what is obviously the true generalisation on the subject, that I have no doubt he holds it in reserve for some reason or other. Another clergyman, the Rev. Llewelyn Davies, writes an excellent paper on "The Debts of Theology to Secular Movements." But is the argument confined to the debts of "theology"? Does not another meaning constantly slide in? I think so. And the consequence is that what assumes to be the dominant or central factor in certain results is sometimes co-ordinated, often absolutely subordinated. You cannot see the wood for the trees. Suppose a Mohammedan doctor were to come forward and write such a paper as this on the debts of Mohammedan theology to secular movements. An enemy might very well reply, "You may pretend to treat your theology as a framework apart from the higher forces of which your whole system claims to be the vehicle, but the pretence will be vain, and the result of your argument is, all appearances to the contrary notwithstanding, the historic subordination of your leading factor. In fact, you inadvertently admit that it is gradually being wiped off the slate; and, though the name may last for a time when the thing is changed, that cannot go on for ever." In the new number the war topics are still to the fore; and I hope we have seen the last of the Potters and the Odgerses. There are some beautiful tributes to the memory of the late Dean Alford, and a paper by Archbishop Manning, to which I must return.

In the *Cornhill* I am glad to note an improvement this month in the illustrations. But there is still—or do "my precious heyes" deceive me?—a certain coarseness in the execution. However, the literature is good enough to make up for any casual shortcomings in such matters. The Revolution in Spain, the Eclipse, "Professionals Abroad," and some other matters, besides the stories (which are as good as ever), make up a number of high merit, though one that does not readily lend itself to comment. "Harry Richmond" and "Lord Kilgobbin" are excellent stories; and certainly there is no lack of spirit or fidelity in the artistic "intentions" of Mr. Du Maurier or Mr. S. L. Prides. I lay stress upon the fidelity, because illustrators are now such a hard-worked (and pampered, money-making) race, that they, in five cases out of ten, omit to read the text they are set to make pictures to.

In *Macmillan*, besides the story, "Patty," and the war papers, we have one on "Giordano Bruno," by Mr. Andrew Lang; one on "Ciphers and Cipher-Writing;" and one on "Gregariousness," by Mr. Francis Galton. All these are of high interest. But even yet justice has not been done to Giordano Bruno, burnt for Pantheism in 1600, after long years in prison. "You are more afraid to condemn me to death than I am to die"—his words to his abhorred judges of the Vatican will live for ever, like the words of Socrates—"And now it is time for us to depart, you to live, and I to die; but which is best, is known only to the high gods." The subject of Cipher-Writing has never, in my opinion, been exhaustively treated; though the article in *Macmillan* is admirable and more than up to its pretensions. The real solution—no, I shan't tell yet. Mr. Galton points out that both men and animals crowd together for greater safety from external attack; that the number of animals, and men, who can act independently and take leading places is always few; and so on. This is traced out in a very luminous way; but, after all, we find nothing is added to our knowledge. And, worse, in societies of all kinds the problem assumes a new form. The one thing, says Mirabeau, that man in society cannot by himself make sure of is personal safety. Just so; we want no Mirabeau to tell us that.

The sketch of Mr. Lowe in Hyde Park, given in *London Society*, is wonderfully good. I do not understand Mr. F. Arnold in the "Piccadilly Papers" when he says that "Dean Stanley is perhaps the greatest living master of the English tongue," his only rival being probably Mr. Froude. What next? Both these gentlemen write with great force and picturesqueness; but no man can be called a master of his native tongue who frequently blunders in the use of it. Now, Dean Stanley is a most careless writer—of course, he always writes like what he is, a man of fine faculties, high culture, and eloquence; but for all that he is

slovenly; and Mr. Froude is worse—he is often incorrect. I should have thought this was notorious, but, thus startled by Mr. F. Arnold, I must add that, in saying this, I have no small pedantries in my mind, and that my words can easily be established by any reader who will take a little trouble.

In *Good Words* Miss M. de Betham-Edwards is deeply interesting in the "Sylvestres." It is delightful reading. Yet the Curate's children are unnatural, and so is the Rector. "Blomfield" is probably a misprint for "Bloomfield." But is "Crabbe" intended for Clare? At all events, though Crabbe wrote poems of rural life—say rustic pathology—his name is out of place here. Two of the poems, with the music, out of Mr. Tennyson's new book "The Window," have appeared in this periodical! The paper on "Faraday" is not satisfactory. On the questions of the relation of science and religious belief, the philosopher was obviously all abroad. The attempt, which writers of a certain school have so persistently carried on, to make capital out of his grossly bad logic is not very creditable. What is more, I boldly challenge not only posterity, but the secret thoughts of the greatest physicists now living, when I assert that Faraday was deficient in the first qualities even of a natural philosopher. Every sane man will honour him and set him in a high place, if only certain puffers will not make an idol of him. Pray, Mr. Editor, does your exalted position in that editorial chair of yours enable you to throw any light upon the fact that the world is so full of semi-conscious lying? By-the-by, Faraday's odd notion—a craze it was, and nothing else—about the hard-and-fast line between religious and extra-religious matters led him into some obviously false and casuistical dicta upon questions of the higher morals.

The *English Mechanic and World of Science* is wonderfully improved. Mr. R. A. Proctor has commenced a series of "Lessons in the Differential Calculus," and very luminous they are. *Mem.* for medical students who have forgotten their mathematics, or who never had any. This has nothing to do with lithotomy or lithotripsy.

As spring approaches, interest in the garden and all that thereto pertains becomes daily more active. As a rule, professional advice and suggestions are not of so much help to amateur gardeners as I think they might be, regular gardeners generally having rather too grand notions of how things ought to be done, and consequently often giving directions which circumstances do not permit to be followed. It is rarely so, however, with the hints given in the publications superintended by Mr. Shirley Hibberd, and more rarely so still with those emanating from Mr. Hibberd himself. In the *Floral World*, therefore, there is always much that the merest tyro may profit by; and the number for the current month is more than usually suggestive. The articles on the cultivation of garden peas and on dessert pears are especially good, the former containing directions that must be within the power of everyone to practise with success. By-the-by, what a most tempting bit of fruit is that "Brookworth Park Pear" figured in the *Floral World*! I may add that Mr. Hibberd's *Garden Oracle*, which has now reached its thirteenth year, has just been issued, and will be invaluable to gardeners, both amateur and professional.

The *Gardener's Magazine* is as bright and fresh as ever. Has the editor ever thought of enlivening his already lively pages with some papers on "gardening" references from poets and others?

"Why *Lonicera* will thou name thy child?"
I asked the gardener's wife in accents mild.

Then there was a ladies' moralist, who taught that it was highly indecent to teach girls botany. I forget his name; but he belongs to the very beginning of this century or very end of last. Then there was old Darwin. Then there is—but hold! why should I write other people's articles for them? Articles—nay, books—have been written about flowers, and flower-verses; but they have been very namby-pamby affairs, and there is room for something fifty times better.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

He would be a bold man who would affirm that "Deadman's Point; or, The Lighthouse on Carn Ruth," was a good play. I do not suppose that Mr. Burnand ever intended it to be a good play, if by a good play we mean a work of dramatic excellence, both as regards construction, tone, and writing. Mr. Burnand was evidently anxious to put together a stirring, sensational, and improbable melodrama—something after the old Adelphi pattern. And this he has succeeded in doing. I do not think the dramatic faculty belongs to Mr. Burnand. He is not original. But he is clever enough and well-practised enough to know just what effects will please the public and how much sensation the public will swallow. He is evidently determined that his play shall not fail from lack of sensation, for I do not think I have ever seen a drama, except at the East-End, which contains so much excitement. A billiard-match, a shipwreck, an attempted abduction, an attempted murder or two, a burglary, and all the horrors of death after a battle—these are a few of the titbits in store for the ADELPHI audiences. By the way the audience cheered last Saturday night, it is clear to me that a portion of the public, even at the West-End, likes its theatrical amusement hot and strong. Criticism is out of the question with a play of this kind. The actors had no chance. Literary excellence is, of course, quite out of the question. Mr. Lloyds was the great man of the evening, and strange to say this popular artist has not yet learned that it is not correct to take the applause when the curtain is up and the play is going on. Why could not Mr. Lloyds wait and receive his compliments with the rest of the actors at the end of the play? I wonder how many times I have urged the propriety of this course. Oddly enough, Mr. Lloyds, though he was much cheered by the vulgar audience, which, not knowing a good play from a bad one, certainly does not know a good scene from a bad one, was not so successful as usual. Mr. Lloyds has hitherto been a poetical and tasty artist. He has somehow sunk all at once to the vulgarity of the Adelphi scenic style. A worse shipwreck, one more stupidly composed or more unnatural, I certainly never saw; and the scenery altogether was tawdry, vulgar, and in bad taste. Mr. Lloyds must forgive these hard words. He deserves to be handled roughly for such mistakes as these, for we all know what excellent work he can do if he chooses. When I say, ament the acting, that Miss Furtado was very pathetic and very effective in parts, I have said nearly all that need be said. Mr. and Mrs. Billington did their best, but Mrs. Mellon and Mrs. Leigh Murray were given characters altogether unworthy of them. For myself, I cannot bear to see Mrs. Mellon play a fashionable young gentleman. She can play Lemuel to perfection; but she should never don breeches, except as Lemuel the gipsy poacher.

An extraordinary and very prepossessing young lady, called Lulu—what a sweet-sounding word!—has appeared at the HOLBORN AMPHITHEATRE. She goes through marvellous acrobatic feats, and, by means of some clever apparatus on which she stands, is made to shoot into the air as if she had been blown out of a gun. I am told that this feat is not dangerous, and that if an accident happened the lady would be safely caught in a net. The performance will no doubt please many; but I will honestly own that I do not like these extraordinary feats, and least of all when they are undertaken by a young and interesting lady.

May I be allowed in this place to strew my poor flowers of words on the grave that has now closed over poor Tom Robertson? We have all lost a charming writer, an elegant mind, and a fanciful genius. Many of us have lost in addition a faithful friend. There is no need to tell us on this occasion that nothing but sweet things should be spoken of the dead. He left behind him no enemies, no bitterness, no ranklings, no sore places. We have nothing to forgive. But, reflecting that week after week in your columns I fill, most unworthily, the allotted theatrical space which was once made so pleasant by his lively gossip and vast theatrical experience, may I be permitted to raise my hat most reverently, and endeavour more and more to follow in his footsteps?

In a second letter this correspondent gives further details of his experiences. "I got into conversation (he writes), in English, with a man who had been in America, but this had no effect in leading my critics to suppose I was an Englishman. 'These Prussians, sacre, they know every language under the sun,' sententiously remarked an elderly gentleman with a big cabbage under each arm and a pair of red stripes down his legs. My horse shared with me the public interest. But it was not the interest usually attracted towards horses. There was no criticism as to her points, her probable action, or her soundness. No, 'she was a fine fat animal; she must be succulent; how well she would eat! what would I not give for a slice of her?'" He was surprised to see so many well-appointed vehicles still in the streets of Paris, with well-conditioned horses. Nor were the omnibuses either few or far between, and their horses were in the best of condition, as were the horses ridden at break-neck speed through the streets by officers who looked, and probably were, transmogrified *petits crevés*.

The same gentleman, in describing his difficulties in getting out of Paris again, gives the following picture of affairs at the British Embassy:—"I must first get my passport visé at the Embassy. Then I must go to the Prefecture of Police and get a permit, which would probably be refused, and there it was, after all, the Prussian lines to pass. I thought it wise to have the passport visé, in case of accident. Who could visé it? Oh! Mr. Blount, the banker, had just been appointed British Consul. To Mr. Blount's I went. A respectable man told me that was the wrong shop; I must go to the Embassy and get my business done there. To the Embassy I went accordingly. A porter, mopping the stairs, was the sole representative visible of her Britannic Majesty. He sent me into a room, and presently a little man in slippers arrived, who told me he had been summoned from some cleaning operations up stairs, and was in a muddle. Inside his velvet coat was concentrated the representation of Ambassador, Attaché, Consul, and the British flag generally, including the lion and the unicorn. He produced the seal, and had to spit on the unused wad to get juice enough for the impression. With much mental perturbation, arising from thick ink and a defective acquaintance with the art of penmanship, he succeeded in achieving my skeleton credentials, and then said I must go to Mr. Blount and get his signature attached. Rather a scrappy way of getting accredited as a free-born British Christian, I thought, especially when I thought of the big house and the bigger item in the Estimates. However, I went to Mr. Blount, who was remarkably civil for a Consul, and owned, with ingenious candour, to an utter ignorance of his new duties. He knew enough, however, to attach his name to the vicinity of the imposing stamp, and then advised me to go the Prefecture."

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT BY THE QUEEN.

HER MAJESTY, with Princesses Louise and Beatrice and Prince Leopold, and attended by Colonel de Ros and Lady Churchill, left Windsor on Thursday morning, by special train on the Great Western Railway, en route for Buckingham Palace. The Royal party were received at the Paddington terminus by the deputy chairman, Mr. C. A. Wood, and some other directors of the company. Beyond the Royal carriages, a few extra policemen, and a detachment of Hussars, there was nothing to indicate that the Queen was expected. There were but few people around the entrance gates, and they were not particularly demonstrative. Hats were raised and handkerchiefs waved, and there was a cheer as the carriages drove off. Here and there along the route to Buckingham Palace there were small knots of people waiting, and, as St. James's Park was approached, these knots became more frequent, and her Majesty's reception seemed to be warmer. The weather was delightful.

Towards two o'clock the Queen drove to Westminster, and opened the Parliamentary Session with the following speech, which was read by the Lord Chancellor:—

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

At an epoch of such moment to the future fortunes of Europe, I am especially desirous to avail myself of your counsels.

The war which broke out, in the month of July, between France and Germany, has raged, until within the last few days, with unintermitted and likewise with unexampled force; and its ravages may be renewed, after but a few days more, unless moderation and forethought, prevailing over all impediments, shall sway the councils of both the parties whose well-being is so vitally concerned.

At the time when you separated I promised a constant attention to the subject of neutral obligations; and I undertook to use my best endeavours to prevent the enlargement of the area of war; and to contribute, if opportunity should offer, to the restoration of an early and honourable peace.

In accordance with the first of these declarations, I have maintained the rights and strictly discharged the duties of neutrality.

The sphere of the war has not been extended beyond the two countries originally engaged.

cherishing with care the cordiality of my relations with each belligerent, I have forbore from whatever might have been construed as gratuitous or unwarranted interference between parties neither of whom had shown a readiness to propose terms of accommodation such as to bear promise of acceptance by the other.

I have been enabled, on more than one occasion, to contribute towards placing the representatives of the two contending countries in confidential communication; but, until famine compelled the surrender of Paris, no further result had been obtained.

The armistice now being employed for the convocation of an Assembly in France has brought about a pause in the constant accumulation, on both sides, of human suffering, and has rekindled the hope of a complete accommodation. I pray that this suspension may result in a peace compatible, for the two great and brave nations involved, with security and with honour, and likely therefore to command the approval of Europe, and to give reasonable hopes of a long duration.

It has been with concern that I have found myself unable to accredit my Ambassador in a formal manner to the Government of Defence, which has existed in France since the revolution of September; but neither the harmony nor the efficiency of the correspondence of the two States has been in the smallest degree impaired.

The King of Prussia has accepted the title of Emperor of Germany at the instance of the chief authorities of the nation.

I have offered my congratulations on an event which bears testimony to the solidity and independence of Germany, and which, I trust, may be found conducive to the stability of the European system.

I have endeavoured, in correspondence with other Powers of Europe, to uphold the sanctity of treaties, and to remove any misapprehension as to the binding character of their obligations.

It was agreed by the Powers which had been parties to the Treaty of 1856 that a Conference should meet in London. This Conference has now been for some time engaged in its labours; and I confidently trust that the result of its deliberations will be to uphold both the principles of public right and the general policy of the treaty, and at the same time, by the revision of some of its conditions in a fair and conciliatory spirit, to exhibit a cordial co-operation among the Powers with regard to the Levant.

I greatly regret that my earnest efforts have failed to procure the presence at the Conference of any representative of France, which was one of the chief parties to the Treaty of 1856, and which must ever be regarded as a principal and indispensable member of the great Commonwealth of Europe.

At different times several questions of importance have arisen, which are not yet adjusted, and which materially affect the relations between the United States and the territories and people of British North America. One of them in particular, which concerns the Fisheries, calls for early settlement, lest the possible indiscretion of individuals should impair the neighbourly understanding which it is on all grounds so desirable to cherish and maintain. I have therefore engaged in amicable communications with the President of the United States. In order to

determine the most convenient mode of treatment for these matters, I have suggested the appointment of a joint Commission; and I have agreed to a proposal of the President that this Commission shall be authorised, at the same time and in the same manner, to resume the consideration of the American claims growing out of the circumstances of the late war. This arrangement will, by common consent, include all claims for compensation which have been made, or may be made, by each Government, or by its citizens, upon the other.

The establishment of a Prince of the house of Savoy on the throne of Spain by the free choice of the popularly-elected representatives of the Spanish nation will, I trust, ensure for a country which has passed with so much temperance and self-control through a prolonged and trying crisis the blessings of a stable government.

I am, unhappily, unable to state that the inquiry which was instituted by the Government of Greece into the history of the shocking murders perpetrated during the last spring at Dilissi has reached a termination answerable in all respects to my just expectations; but I shall not desist from my endeavours to secure the complete attainment of the object of the inquiry. Some valuable results, however, have in the mean time been obtained for the exposure and the repression of a lawless and corrupting system, which has too long afflicted the Greek peninsula.

The anxiety which the massacre at Tien-Tsin, on June 21 last, called forth has happily been dispelled; and while it will be my earnest endeavour to provide for the security of my subjects and their trade in those remote quarters, I count on your concurrence in the policy that I have adopted of recognising the Chinese Government as entitled to be dealt with in its relations with this country in a conciliatory and forbearing spirit.

The Parliamentary recess has been one of anxious interest in regard to foreign affairs. But I rejoice to acquaint you that my relations are, as heretofore, those of friendship and good understanding with the Sovereigns and States of the civilised world.

Papers illustrative of the conduct of my Government in relation to the several matters on which I have now summarily touched will be duly laid before you.

In turning to domestic affairs, I have first to inform you that I have approved of a marriage between my daughter Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorn, and I have declared my consent to this union in Council.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

The revenue of the country flourishes, and the condition of trade and industry may, though with partial drawbacks, be declared satisfactory.

The Estimates for the coming year will be promptly laid before you.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

The lessons of military experience afforded by the present war have been numerous and important.

The time appears appropriate for turning such lessons to account by efforts more decisive than heretofore at practical improvement. In attempting this you will not fail to bear in mind the special features in the position of this country so favourable to the freedom and security of the people; and if the changes from a less to a more effective and elastic system of defensive military preparation shall be found to involve, at least for a time, an increase of various charges, your prudence and patriotism will not grudge the cost, as long as you are satisfied that the end is important and the means judicious. No time will be lost in laying before you a bill for the better regulation of the Army and the auxiliary land forces of the Crown, and I hardly need commend it to your anxious and impartial consideration.

I trust that the powerful interest at present attaching to affairs abroad and to military questions will not greatly abate the energy with which you have heretofore applied yourselves to the work of general improvement in our domestic legislation.

I commend anew to your attention several measures on subjects which I desired to be brought before you during the last Session of Parliament, but which the time remaining at your disposal, after you had dealt with the principal subjects of the year, was not found sufficient to carry to a final issue.

I refer especially to the Bills on Religious Tests in the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, on Ecclesiastical Titles, on the Disabilities of Trade Combinations, on the Courts of Justice and Appeal, on the Adjustment of Local Burdens, and on the Licensing of Houses for the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors.

The inquiry made by a Committee of the Commons House being now complete, a measure will be placed before you on an early day for the establishment of secret voting.

A proposal is anxiously expected in Scotland for the adjustment of the question of primary education. With reference to the training of the young in schools on a national scale and basis, that portion of the country has special claims on the favourable consideration of Parliament; and I trust the year may not pass by without your having disposed of this question by the enactment of a just and effective law.

The condition of Ireland with reference to agrarian crime has, in general, afforded a gratifying contrast with the state of that island in the preceding winter; but there have been painful though very partial exceptions.

To secure the best results for the great measures of the two last Sessions which have so recently passed into operation, and which involve such direct and pressing claims upon the attention of all classes of the community, a period of calm is to be desired; and I have thought it wise to refrain from suggesting to you at the present juncture the discussion of any political question likely to become the subject of new and serious controversy in that country.

The burdens devolving upon you as the great council of the nation and of this ancient and extended empire are, and must long continue to be, weighty. But you labour for a country whose laws and institutions have stood the test of time, and whose people, earnestly attached to them and desiring their continuance, will unite with their Sovereign in invoking upon all your designs the favour and aid of the Most High.

When the Lord Chancellor had finished reading the Speech the Queen rose from the throne, and, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and the Princesses, left the House, which was speedily cleared of the brilliant company which had occupied it for two hours and a half. Her Majesty was conducted back to the Peers' entrance, where the Royal carriages were in waiting, and returned to Buckingham Palace.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House of Lords met again at five o'clock. There was a large attendance of Peers.

The Marquis of WESTMINSTER moved the Address in reply to the Royal Speech, and at some length reviewed the points therein alluded to.

The Earl of ROSEBERRY seconded the Address.

The Duke of RICHMOND congratulated the mover and reconnector of the Address on the manner in which they had acquitted themselves.

Earl GRANVILLE explained the policy of the Government with respect to the Conference and their non-intervention with respect to the war.

After a few observations from the Earl of Hardwicke with respect to the Navy, the motion was agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The members of the House of Commons began to assemble as early as twelve o'clock. The Speaker took the chair at a quarter to two o'clock, and at ten minutes past two Sir Augustus Clifford, Usher of the Black Rod, appeared at the bar, and, advancing to the table, summoned the attendance of the Speaker and hon. members in the House of Peers by command of her Majesty. The Speaker, accompanied by Mr. Gladstone and a host of other hon. gentlemen, accordingly proceeded to the House of Lords to hear the Speech from the Throne.

In the evening the House presented a most animated appearance, the benches on both sides being crowded.

The Speaker having read her Majesty's Speech, Mr. HAMILTON moved the Address in answer to the Queen's Speech, and in doing so referred to the various topics touched upon in it.

Mr. S. MORLEY seconded the motion.

Mr. DISHAELI, having reviewed the circumstances which led to the declaration of war, said, had the Government in July last acted with more firmness, and declared that they intended to keep an armed neutrality, he believed there would have been no war. He next reviewed the foreign policy of the Government, and condemned it for not protesting against the abrogation of treaties. He was never an alarmist, but he could not help

seeing that the position of England with foreign Powers was very different to what it was fifty years ago. He feared that the commerce and wealth of the kingdom excited envy. He trusted that the same combination would not be entered into as that which took place against Venice, and which led to her decadence. The great source of England's strength was her possession of the seas of war. We were in possession of equal rights and of commercial and religious liberty, and we should not easily yield such a pre-eminent position. It was of importance that we should show to Europe and America a united Parliament; and, though there might be minor differences, there was no difference on vital points, such as a sufficient military and naval establishment.

Mr. GLADSTONE would show that there was no foundation for much of what Mr. Disraeli had stated. Shortly a statement would be laid before the House which would explain satisfactorily the course the Government had taken in the present crisis. With respect to the demand of Russia relative to the treaty he believed that the public generally approved of the attitude taken by Lord Granville. With respect to the charge against the Government that it maintained in this war a wrong neutrality, instead of an armed neutrality, and that the Government could not assume an armed neutrality because of the unwieldy reductions we had made in the Army and Navy, he answered that an armed neutrality, instead of stopping war, would have provoked war. Were we to use strong language, and tell France we should not support it by going to war? If we had interfered, France would certainly have resented an unwarranted intrusion. He contended that the Government had discharged the whole of their duty, and were not subject to censure.

After some observations from Mr. Newdegate and Sir J. Elphinstone, the motion was agreed to.

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THE WORKMEN'S THREE DUTIES.

THE second part of Mr. Ruskin's "Fors Clavigera, Letters addressed to the Workmen and Labourers of Great Britain," makes such sudden "tangential" sweeps that cautious readers will wait for the April or even the May number before they attempt to form any general opinion of the scope of the letters. But the last winds up by calling upon the persons addressed to promise three things:—"1. To do your own work well, whether it be for life or death. 2. To help other people to do theirs when you can, and seek to avenge no injury. 3. To be sure you can obey good laws before you seek to alter bad ones."

Number one and number two of these points speak for themselves; they are in themselves noble, and Mr. Ruskin puts them worthily. But at the third one stumbles. How can any human being be sure he can obey good laws? And if he could be sure of it, why should he wait for the certainty before trying to get the bad ones altered? There is something in the spirit of the suggestion which commands a response; but we cannot receive the formula. Suppose a cruel ogre were misruling a given land; is no Jack the Giant-Killer to stir a finger to remove the ogre, unless he is certain he can obey any wise and good ruler who may get put in the ogre's place? Whether there are or are not certain forms of anarchy which are preferable to certain forms of despotism is an open question. Mr. Ruskin may have—readers of his writings know that he has—very strong opinions of his own in favour of a strong government *quand même*; but not even his splendid powers, his pathetic and almost preternatural conscientiousness, his wide culture, and his noble achievements, entitle him, especially in dealing with such clients, to treat an open question as one foreclosed for all time.

DR. DALRYMPLE AND HIS BILL.

If the Habitual Drunkards Bill of Dr. Dalrymple is to be as moderate and justifiable a measure as the terms of his address at Norwich the other day would lead us to suppose, it is a thousand pities that he allows the circular to which we lately referred to remain in circulation. Unless his speech is misreported—which we rather fear is the case—all the bill aims at is strictly within the province of State interference. But why, then, permit that wretched prospectus to mislead the public? It is still going the round of the magazines, as ungrammatical, as monstrously absurd from the political point of view, and as much like a last-century tract run mad, as ever.

That there may be no misunderstanding upon a very simple question, let us briefly lay down what we hold the State may do in this matter. First, a drunkard, who is a madman, may already be confined;—many of the inmates of lunatic asylums are insane through drink. Secondly, if a man is disorderly through drink, or if he causes the State trouble and expense by going abroad helplessly drunk, so as to need being officially kept out of mischief, he is fairly punishable. Again, if a man commits a murder or an assault, drunkenness is no excuse at law. Further, if a man neglects to support his wife and family, he is punishable, whatever the cause may be. If a fanatic fool (the case is a real one) runs away from home to preach up Joanna Southcott, and leaves his family to the parish, it is a case for the magistrate. But we punish him, not for being a fanatic, but for neglecting to fulfil a bargain with the State, and for throwing his own burdens on the shoulders of others. "Transmutably the same" (to quote Dickens), if a drunkard lets his family come to the parish, we may justly punish him—for the above reason, though; not for getting drunk, which is nobody's business but his own. In modern times, Bernard Palissy's family might possibly have come upon the rates; but we should have dealt politically with Palissy, not for fanatical pursuit of the enamel, but for breach of political contract.

If Dr. Dalrymple's bill merely proposes to make it pos-

sible in certain cases for habitual drunkards (not "drinkers," as the circular absurdly puts it) to avail themselves, voluntarily, of some kind of reformatory machinery, which is, as a matter of social convenience and expediency, to have State sanction, the idea is quite open to consideration, though the working of such a bill would require to be most carefully regulated. But if that is to be all, why not call in at once the preposterous circular of the society? All we care to get understood is that excessive drinking is by itself no more within the sphere of State control than excessive devoutness, or excessive imaginativeness. The circular refers to the consequences to posterity of a diseased constitution. But, good Heavens, how far is this to go? A recent able writer has maintained that monachism did immense harm by withdrawing from their normal share in the continuation of the race some of the best people of the Middle Ages. This is a topic on which there is much to be said on both sides; but supposing a Dr. Somebody to have got this idea into his head and to have found a following, what should we say to a Bill to prevent people from celibating, and that on the ground of the interests of posterity? To this it must be added, however shockingly it reads, there are some men who seem only to do their best, and to be their best, at the cost of habitual resort to some apparently abnormal stimulant. If Coleridge had not taken opium, should we ever have had the "Ancient Mariner," or "Christabel," or "Kubla Khan."

THE LOUNGER.

SOME "member out of town"—I forget who it was, but no matter—said, the other day, "The Duke of Argyll is so poor that he was obliged to place one of his sons in a merchant's office." The Duke of Argyll has so placed two of his sons—one in a merchant's office in London, and another with a cotton-broker in Liverpool. But was it because he is so poor? This is not, I think, a correct statement. The Duke of Argyll is not poor; he has immense estates; but he has five sons and a house full of daughters, or, as the Germans say, a daughter-full house. There are, I learn from "Debrett," seven of them. May the benign powers bless the ladies with good husbands! By-the-way, one is married already, and married well. Her husband is Earl Percy, the son and heir of the Duke of Northumberland. This young lady, then, is well provided for, and only six remain unmarried and to be portioned, and no doubt the Duke is well able to portion them. But now for the sons. The eldest is to be married, as all the world knows, to Princess Louise, whom all the insane ravings to the contrary, the House of Commons will handsomely dower. Besides, he will in time—may the time be long!—be Duke of Argyll. There remain, or remained, therefore, four sons—Archibald, born 1846; Walter, 1848; George, 1850; Colin, 1853. I suppose Archibald and Walter are the merchants; and when the time came for these lads to choose a profession, one can imagine the father thus addressing them:—"Well, bairns, the time is come for you to say what you will be. Will you be soldiers or sailors, or will you go in for diplomacy? Your portion won't be large, and neither of these professions offer very brilliant outlooks. Neither of them will enable you to keep yourselves for many years. What say you to the profession of a merchant? We have had fighters plenty in our family, and also diplomats. Suppose you try something new in the aristocratic world; go forth and by honest labour try to achieve your own independence." The lads consented, and all honour to them therefore, and to their illustrious father; and may the sons be successful, and whilst their brother allies himself to a Princess, may they become merchant princes! It is curious that whilst, on the one hand, this noble family is breaking through the divinity which doth hedge a throne, on the other it is leaping over the conventional fence which separates ancient noble families from traders. I prophesy that this example set by the good Duke will soon be extensively followed; and, if this should be so, the younger sons of our aristocracy will have cause to offer up the old prayer, "God bless the Duke of Argyll!" with a new meaning.

A few months ago Mr. Brassey, the railway contractor, shuffled off this mortal coil, leaving behind him £3,200,000 (not £6,500,000, as stated in the papers), besides vast landed estates. It is an enormous sum. There is probably no commoner so rich, and perhaps only one peer—to wit, the Marquis of Westminster—if he is. But what then? Shall we envy the possessor of all this wealth, and get into a delirium of admiration amounting almost to worship? By no means. Let Flunkeydom do that. But we may envy and admire his perseverance, skill, and energy, and talent for organisation. At times, he had, I am told, nearly 20,000 men in his employ; and to keep them all well at work, regularly paid, and organised, required great skill. And, further, for the thousands of miles of railroads that he made we may be grateful. Mr. Brassey made railroads in other countries besides the United Kingdom; in France, Spain, Italy, Canada, South America, and probably other places. Railway-making has been certainly profitable to many contractors, but not to all. Here, as in other enterprises, the many fail, the one succeeds. Mr. Brassey was at one time in partnership with Peto and Betts. He succeeded, and they, as we know, failed, as many more did. During the last panic the credit of railway contractors stood very low in the City. An anecdote which I heard when the panic was subsiding shows this. "How are things in the City?" asked a gentleman of a Frenchman connected with railways. "Oh!" he replied; "they are very much better. I have seen to-day a great banker open a new account with a railway contractor!"

The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company have advertised an improvement in their regulations. At present the passage-money covers not only the cost of food, but of spirits, wine, and beer *ad libitum*—i.e., in plain English, without stint. You call for what you like and pay for nothing. But on and after March 18 the passage-money is to be largely reduced, and passengers will have to buy their drink. This is certainly an improvement in every way. Under the present system the temperate people have to pay largely for the drinkers to excess; and, further, many men when they can get drink for nothing are very apt to drink more than they require.

At Sharnbrook, a village in Bedfordshire, with a population of about 1000, the inhabitants have done a notable thing, worthy of being known and imitated. There is a Church school there. To keep it going and make it commensurate with the wants of the parish, and so to keep clear of a school board, Mr. Gibbard, a county squire, offered to subscribe £400. This was a tempting offer; but at a parish meeting, regularly convened to take the matter into consideration, the gift was respectfully declined, and a proposition, "That it is expedient that a school board should be formed," was unanimously carried. The resolution was moved by Charles Magniac, Esq., M.P., whose seat is in the parish, seconded by the Baptist minister, and warmly supported by the Curate. The Vicar was present but did not speak. But Mr. Magniac, in his speech, said "the Vicar must prefer that the school should remain as it is, a Church of England school, worked with a conscience clause; but he felt that the Church must go with popular education, and not try to stop the stream." Oh, that all Vicars were like this Vicar! But, patience! I foretold in these

columns, when the School Bill was passed, that the rate-supported schools would in time absorb the denominational, and, you see, here the work is already begun. The burden of denominational schools falls upon a few. The burden of rate-supported schools is borne equally by all the inhabitants rated to the poor. And we may be quite sure, as sure as we are of the working of a natural law, that even in agricultural villages the people who now bear the burden will be anxious to make all bear it alike. In towns, when rate-supported schools shall become established, it is, I think, certain that the clergy will find their subscription-lists gradually evaporating. Many Churchmen are very zealous now for the religious instruction of the poor—or rather say dogmatic teaching of the poor, which may or may not be religious. Certainly it is not always religious—if religious teaching be the cultivation of religious feelings and principles—as many know who look back with something like disgust, if not horror, at the teaching of that sort which they had forced into their minds in the days of their childhood. But when said Churchmen come to have to pay the rate as well as the subscription, their zeal, I fancy, will cool, especially when they discover that the clergy may give religious—i.e., dogmatic—instruction to the children in the rate-supported schools—at least, to those whose parents wish them to be taught; only the instruction must not be given in regular school-hours. Besides this, are not English people getting rather cold towards Church dogmas? I think I see everywhere signs of this; nay, a Bishop of the Church—the late Bishop of Hereford—has said that the fundamental dogmas—the Trinity, Original Sin, and some others, "are not found in the New Testament; they are human inventions; they were made by the Greek and Latin fathers of the early Church, or by the schoolmen of the Middle Ages. We can show you the workshop in which they were made." Thus spake Bishop Hampden; and thus speak, more or less directly, every Sunday a large and increasing number of the clergy. And, this being so, may we not expect that the zeal for these dogmas, now, I fancy, cooling, will grow colder and colder, until the alleged necessity for denominational schools will cease to exist, and the schools be absorbed by the rate supported schools? It seems to me that this consummation, devoutly to be wished, lies no great way ahead of us; and I think that probably Mr. Forster foresaw this when, to get his bill passed, he consented to preserve the denominational schools.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES, ETC.

It was with a deep regret, which will be widely shared, that I heard of the death of Mr. T. W. Robertson; with whom, until the last year or so, I had had a good deal of casual intercourse. I remember him soon after he first came to London, and heartily rejoiced in his growing prosperity. He had a frankness which sometimes went so near to the verge of bluntness, and yet fell short of it, as to make you feel you had a gentleman to deal with. In a word, I always liked him. What he wanted, as a writer, was more purely intellectual power, of so to speak, overseeing and moulding his own writing; and many a time did I half-playfully offer to do the shaping part of the work if he would hand me over certain MSS. of his which I greatly admired. He was a very pleasant-looking fellow.

To take, as promised, the two numbers of the *Contemporary Review* together, I begin by saying that Mr. Haweis, on "Music and Morals," is as admirable both in design and execution as his reputation in writing of this order would lead you to expect. But, strong as is the case he makes out, the reader will probably feel, as I do, that the relation of the artistic temperament to "morals" is here dealt with but one-sidedly. There are plenty of people of that temperament who are not "moral" in the sense of obeying every empirical generalisation or rule, who have yet conscience and goodness enough to cut up into ninety-and-nine "moral" persons who need no repentance. The figures Mr. Haweis gives as to the longevity of artists are so suggestive of what is obviously the true generalisation on the subject, that I have no doubt he holds it in reserve for some reason or other. Another clergyman, the Rev. Llewellyn Davies, writes an excellent paper on "The Debts of Theology to Secular Movements." But is the argument confined to the debts of "theology"? Does not another meaning constantly slide in? I think so. And the consequence is that what assumes to be the dominant or central factor in certain results is sometimes co-ordinated, often absolutely subordinated. You cannot see the wood for the trees. Suppose a Mohammedan doctor were to come forward and write such a paper as this on the debts of Mohammedan theology to secular movements. An enemy might very well reply, "You may pretend to treat your theology as a framework apart from the higher forces of which your whole system claims to be the vehicle, but the pretence will be vain, and the result of your argument is, all appearances to the contrary notwithstanding, the historic subordination of your leading factor. In fact, you inadvertently admit that it is gradually being wiped off the slate; and, though the name may last for a time when the thing is changed, that cannot go on for ever." In the new number the war topics are still to the fore; and I hope we have seen the last of the Potters and the Odgerses. There are some beautiful tributes to the memory of the late Dean Alford, and a paper by Archbishop Manning, to which I must return.

In the *Cornhill* I am glad to note an improvement this month in the illustrations. But there is still—or do "my precious heyes" deceive me?—a certain coarseness in the execution. However, the literature is good enough to make up for any casual shortcomings in such matters. The Revolution in Spain, the Eclipse, "Professionals Abroad," and some other matters, besides the stories (which are as good as ever), make up a number of high merit, though one that does not readily lend itself to comment. "Harry Richmond" and "Lord Kilgobbin" are excellent stories; and certainly there is no lack of spirit or fidelity in the artistic "intentions" of Mr. Du Maurier or Mr. S. L. Fildes. I lay stress upon the fidelity, because illustrators are now such hard-worked (and pampered, money-making) race, that they, in five cases out of ten, omit to read the text they are set to make pictures to.

In *Macmillan*, besides the story, "Patty," and the war papers, we have one on "Giordano Bruno," by Mr. Andrew Lang; one on "Ciphers and Cipher-Writing;" and one on "Gregariousness," by Mr. Francis Galton. All these are of high interest. But even yet justice has not been done to Giordano Bruno, burnt for Pantheism in 1600, after long years in prison. "You are more afraid to condemn me to death than I am to die"—his words to his abhorred judges of the Vatican will live for ever, like the words of Socrates—"And now it is time for us to depart, you to live, and I to die; but which is best, is known only to the high gods." The subject of Cipher-Writing has never, in my opinion, been exhaustively treated; though the article in *Macmillan* is admirable and more than up to its pretensions. The real solution—no, I shan't tell yet. Mr. Galton points out that both men and animals crowd together for greater safety from external attack; that the number of animals, and men, who can act independently and take leading places is always few; and so on. This is traced out in a very luminous way; but after all, we find nothing is added to our knowledge. And, worse, in societies of all kinds the problem assumes a new form. The one thing, says Mirabeau, that man in society cannot by himself make sure of is personal safety. Just so; we want no Mirabeau to tell us that.

The sketch of Mr. Lowe in Hyde Park, given in *London Society*, is wonderfully good. I do not understand Mr. F. Arnold in the "Piccadilly Papers" when he says that "Dean Stanley is perhaps the greatest living master of the English tongue," his only rival being probably Mr. Froude. What next? Both these gentlemen write with great force and picturesqueness; but no man can be called a master of his native tongue who frequently blunders in the use of it. Now, Dean Stanley is a most careless writer—of course, he always writes like what he is, a man of fine faculties, high culture, and eloquence; but for all that he is

slovenly; and Mr. Froude is worse—he is often incorrect. I should have thought this was notorious, but, thus startled by Mr. F. Arnold, I must add that, in saying this, I have no small pedantries in my mind, and that my words can easily be established by any reader who will take a little trouble.

In *Good Words* Miss M. de Betham-Edwards is deeply interesting in the "Sylvestres." It is delightful reading. Yet the Curate's children are unnatural, and so is the Rector. "Blomfield" is probably a misprint for "Bloomfield." But is "Crabbe" intended for Clare? At all events, though Crabbe wrote poems of rural life—say rustic pathology—his name is out of place here. Two of the poems, with the music, out of Mr. Tennyson's new book "The Window," have appeared in this periodical! The paper on "Faraday" is not satisfactory. On the questions of the relation of science and religious belief, the philosopher was obviously all abroad. The attempt, which writers of a certain school have so persistently carried on, to make capital out of his grossly bad logic is not very creditable. What is more, I boldly challenge not only posterity, but the secret thoughts of the greatest physicists now living, when I assert that Faraday was deficient in the first qualities even of a natural philosopher. Every sane man will honour him and set him in a high place, if only certain puffers will not make an idol of him. Pray, Mr. Editor, does your exalted position in that editorial chair of yours enable you to throw any light upon the fact that the world is so full of semi-conscious lying? By-the-by, Faraday's odd notion—a craze it was, and nothing else—about the hard-and-fast line between religious and extra-religious matters led him into some obviously false and casuistical dicta upon questions of the higher morals.

The *English Mechanic and World of Science* is wonderfully improved. Mr. R. A. Proctor has commenced a series of "Lessons in the Differential Calculus," and very luminous they are. *Mem.* for medical students who have forgotten their mathematics, or who never had any. This has nothing to do with lithotomy or lithotripsy.

As spring approaches, interest in the garden and all that thereto pertains becomes daily more active. As a rule, professional advice and suggestions are not of so much help to amateur gardeners as I think they might be, regular gardeners generally having rather too grand notions of how things ought to be done, and consequently often giving directions which circumstances do not permit to be followed. It is rarely so, however, with the hints given in the publications superintended by Mr. Shirley Hibberd, and more rarely so still with those emanating from Mr. Hibberd himself. In the *Floral World*, therefore, there is always much that the merest tyro may profit by; and the number for the current month is more than usually suggestive. The articles on the cultivation of garden peas and on dessert pears are especially good, the former containing directions that must be within the power of everyone to practise with success. By-the-by, what a most tempting bit of fruit is that "Brockworth Park Pear" figured in the *Floral World*? I may add that Mr. Hibberd's *Garden Oracle*, which has now reached its thirteenth year, has just been issued, and will be invaluable to gardeners, both amateur and professional.

The *Gardener's Magazine* is as bright and fresh as ever. Has the editor ever thought of enlivening his already lively pages with some papers on "gardening" references from poets and others?

"Why *Lonicera* wilt thou name thy child?"

I asked the gardener's wife in accents mild.

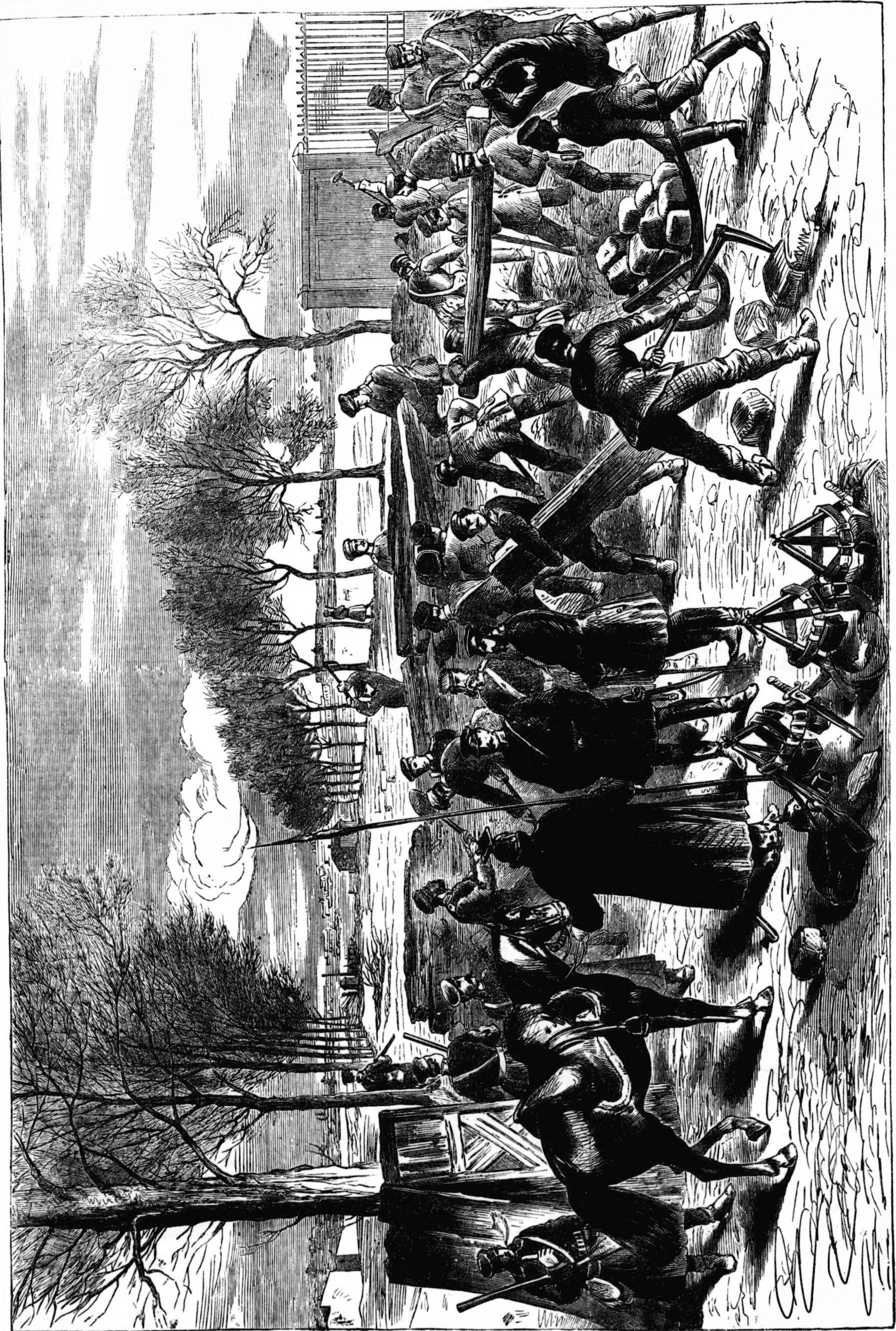
Then there was a ladies' moralist, who taught that it was highly indecent to teach girls botany. I forget his name; but he belongs to the very beginning of this century or very end of last. Then there was old Darwin. Then there is—but hold! why should I write other people's articles for them? Articles—nay, books—have been written about flowers, and flower-verses; but they have been very namby-pamby affairs, and there is room for something fifty times better.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

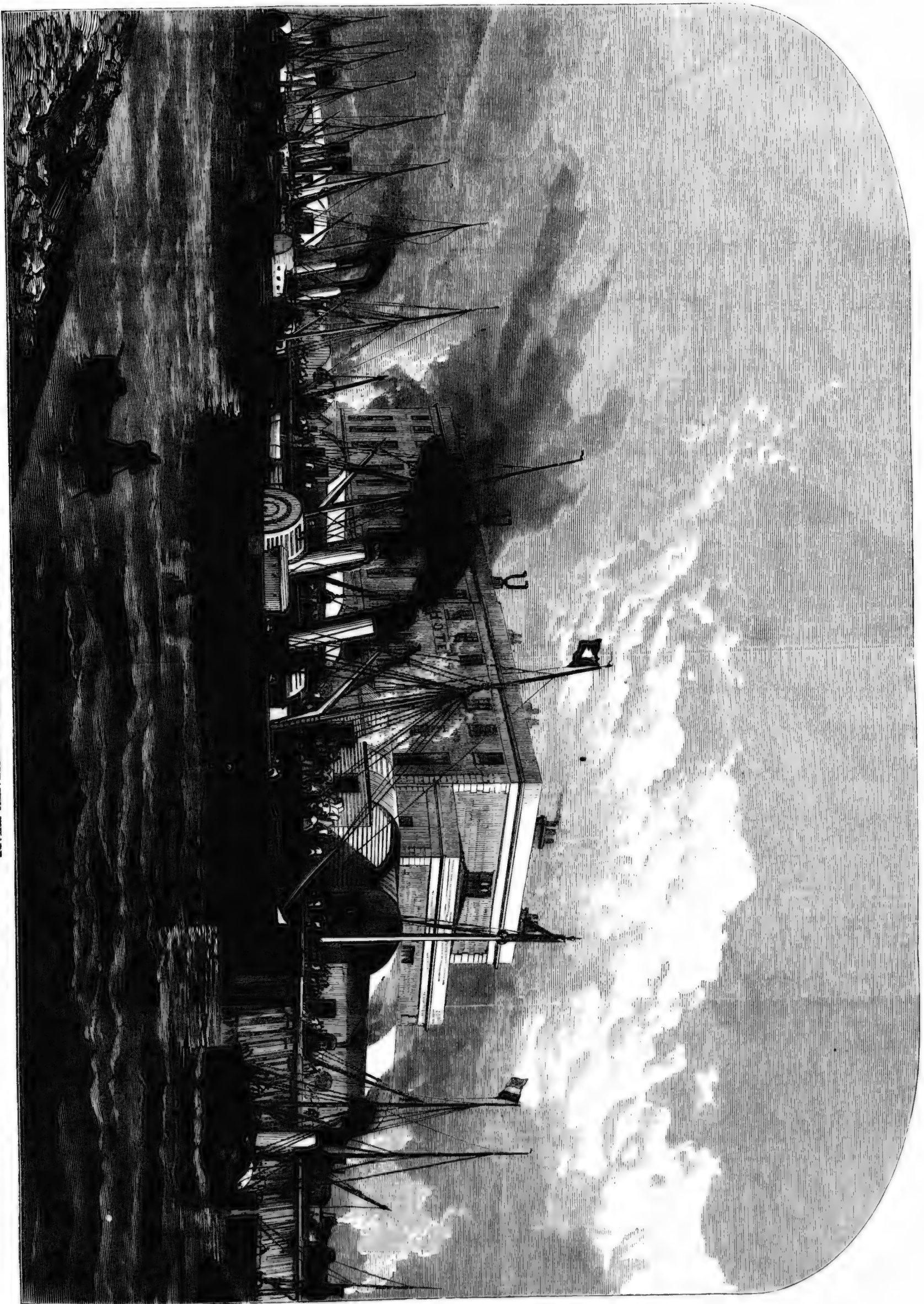
He would be a bold man who would affirm that "Deadman's Point; or, The Lighthouse on Carn Ruth," was a good play. I do not suppose that Mr. Burnand ever intended it to be a good play, if by a good play we mean a work of dramatic excellence, both as regards construction, tone, and writing. Mr. Burnand was evidently anxious to put together a stirring, sensational, and improbable melodrama—something after the old Adelphi pattern. And this he has succeeded in doing. I do not think the dramatic faculty belongs to Mr. Burnand. He is not original. But he is clever enough and well-practised enough to know just what effects will please the public and how much sensation the public will swallow. He is evidently determined that his play shall not fail from lack of sensation, for I do not think I have ever seen a drama, except at the East-End, which contains so much excitement. A billiard-match, a shipwreck, an attempted abduction, an attempted murder or two, a burglary, and all the horrors of death after a battle—these are a few of the titbits in store for the Adelphi audiences. By the way the audience cheered last Saturday night, it is clear to me that a portion of the public, even at the West-End, likes its theatrical amusement hot and strong. Criticism is out of the question with a play of this kind. The actors had no chance. Literary excellence is, of course, quite out of the question. Mr. Lloyds was the great man of the evening, and strange to say this popular artist has not yet learned that it is not correct to take the applause when the curtain is up and the play is going on. Why could not Mr. Lloyds wait and receive his compliments with the rest of the actors at the end of the play? I wonder how many times I have urged the propriety of this course. Oddly enough, Mr. Lloyds, though he was much cheered by the vulgar audience, which, not knowing a good play from a bad one, certainly does not know a good scene from a bad one, was not so successful as usual. Mr. Lloyds has hitherto been a poetical and tasty artist. He has somehow sunk all at once to the vulgarity of the Adelphi scenic style. A worse shipwreck, one more stupidly composed or more unnatural, I certainly never saw; and the scenery altogether was tawdry, vulgar, and in bad taste. Mr. Lloyds must forgive these hard words. He deserves to be handled roughly for such mistakes as these, for we all know what excellent work he can do if he chooses. When I say, ament the acting, that Miss Furtado was very pathetic and very effective in parts, I have said nearly all that need be said. Mr. and Mrs. Billington did their best, but Mrs. Mellon and Mrs. Leigh Murray were given characters altogether unworthy of them. For myself, I cannot bear to see Mrs. Mellon play a fashionable young gentleman. She can play Lemuel to perfection; but she should never don breeches, except as Lemuel the gipsy poacher.

An extraordinary and very prepossessing young lady, called Lulu—what a sweet-sounding word!—has appeared at the HOLBORN AMPHITHEATRE. She goes through marvellous acrobatic feats, and, by means of some clever apparatus on which she stands, is made to shoot into the air as if she had been blown out of a gun. I am told that this feat is not dangerous, and that if an accident happened the lady would be safely caught in a net. The performance will no doubt please many; but I will honestly own that I do not like these extraordinary feats, and least of all when they are undertaken by a young and interesting lady.

May I be allowed in this place to strew my poor flowers of words on the grave that has now closed over poor Tom Robertson? We have all lost a charming writer, an elegant mind, and a fanciful genius. Many of us have lost in addition a faithful friend. There is no need to tell us on this occasion that nothing but sweet things should be spoken of the dead. He left behind him no enemies, no bitterness, no rankings, no sore places. We have nothing to forgive. But, reflecting that week after week in your columns I fill, most unworthily, the allotted theatrical space which was once made so pleasant by his lively gossip and vast theatrical experience, may I be permitted to raise my hat most reverently, and endeavour more and more to follow in his footsteps?



THE SIEGE OF PARIS: GERMANS FORMING INTRENCHMENTS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE CITY. — (SEE PAGE 84.)



REVICUATING OF PARIS: SHIPPING STORES AT NEWHAVEN WHARF.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN arrived at Windsor on Tuesday, preparatory to the opening of Parliament. The Prince and Princess of Wales have returned to town for the season.

THE QUEEN WILL HOLD A COURT AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE on Tuesday, Feb. 21, to receive the Corps Diplomatique, her Majesty's Ministers, and other official personages, with the ladies of their families. The Queen will also hold Drawingrooms at Buckingham Palace on Thursday, Feb. 23, and on Tuesday, March 25.

SIR ALEXANDER OCCURN is slowly but steadily recovering from his severe illness.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON, believing that the tendency of the Elementary Education Act is to deteriorate both the quantity and the quality of the religious teaching in denominational schools, unless counteracted by watchfulness and effort, has issued a circular calling attention to the importance of making such periodical inspections as are permitted by the Act.

SIR THOMAS ERSKINE MAY has been appointed Under-Clerk of the Parliaments, in succession to Sir Denis Le Marchant, Bart., resigned. Sir Erskine May has filled the office of Clerk Assistant to the House of Commons since 1856.

MR. BRIGHT'S HEALTH is so far re-established that he is expected to go to Laverghy about the end of February for salmon fishing.

EARL GRANVILLE has received from her Majesty's Ambassador at Berlin a copy of an Imperial order, annulling the Royal order of July 18, 1870, which exempted conditionally French merchant-vessels from capture.

THE DUKE OF AUMALE has issued an address to the French electors, in which he says he can find nothing in his thoughts or sentiment that should separate him from the Republic. If France desires a Republic he is ready to bow before her sovereign will.

MR. G. W. P. BENTINCK (C) was, on Wednesday, returned without opposition for West Norfolk, in succession to the Hon. T. De Grey, now Lord Walsingham.

CAPTAIN ROBERT HALL, C.B., will succeed Vice-Admiral Sir S. Robinson as Controller of the Navy and Third Lord of the Admiralty.

FIVE EQUESTRIES of the ex-Emperor Napoleon have been arrested at Lille, where M. Pissard has also made his appearance.

THE ARTILLERY is to be immediately augmented by six batteries to the Royal Horse brigades and twenty new field-batteries.

THE HON. MRS. NORTON, whose pen has long been silent, is engaged on a work shortly to be published, "Lives of the Poets Laureate of England."

THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL has just received a donation of £1000 from "D. T. S.," being the third sum of a similar amount for which the funds of that institution are indebted to their anonymous benefactor.

THE CONFERENCE ON THE TREATY OF 1856 met on Tuesday at one o'clock, the representatives of all the Powers except France being present. The sitting was continued till late in the afternoon, and was then adjourned to a day to be hereafter fixed.

ONLY FIVE SUICIDES were committed in Paris during the whole period of the siege. Two of the cases were soldiers and one was a woman.

MR. EDWIN, the manager of the Gateshead Theatre, has been fined £5 and costs by the borough magistrates of that town for allowing Mollie, Braham and her "Parisian female troupe" to dance the cancan in his establishment.

A FRENCH SHIP from St. Malo, with passengers and provisions on board, has been wrecked at Cape la Hague, with the loss of fifty lives.

A TERRIBLE EXPLOSION took place, on Wednesday, in Birmingham, at the Midland Railway Works. A petroleum tank took fire and blew up, injuring, with more or less severity, many of the workmen.

THE USUAL PARLIAMENTARY BANQUETS, in anticipation of the opening of the Session, were given, on Wednesday evening, by the leaders of the Government and the Opposition in both Houses of Parliament.

THREE MEN WERE KILLED, on Wednesday, at the Imperial Gasworks, York-road, King's-cross, by the fall of some brickwork.

SIR MORGAN CROFTON, of Box, Wilt, was, on Wednesday, sentenced by the Bath magistrates to seven days' imprisonment, without the option of paying a fine, for being drunk and disorderly.

AN EXPLOSION of a serious character took place on Tuesday in a cartridge manufactory at Dunkirk, by which the buildings were destroyed, and a great number of the workpeople, mostly women and children, were killed.

A TERRIBLE RAILWAY ACCIDENT has occurred in France through the explosion of a wagon laden with powder-casks. About sixty persons were killed and one hundred wounded.

THE PARISH OF BEKHAMPTSTAD was polled, last Saturday, and decided, by a majority of ninety-five, that the establishment of a school board is desirable. Of about 800 voters 291 voted for and 196 against a board.

M. JOHN LEMOINE says, in an article in the *Débat*, that the Republic is not practicable, and that the only hope of France rests with the family of Orleans.

MR. LEONARD EDMUNDS, who has been a "prerogative State prisoner" at the suit of the Crown since June last, first in Whitecross-street and subsequently in Holloway Gaol, has been released by the Government without solicitation.

THE CENTRAL CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE, on Tuesday, passed a resolution urging that the sale of agricultural produce should be by weight only, and that the introduction of the metric system into the instruction given at public elementary schools was desirable.

AT THE CEREMONY OF OPENING the Royal Albert Hall by the Queen on March 29 an officially reserved free seat will be offered to the Mayor, Provost, or Bailiff of every place in the United Kingdom which paid £100 and upwards to the subscription fund of the Exhibition of 1851.

AN ACTION FOR LIBEL is pending against an American newspaper, the *Rocketer Union*, for having stated that Mollie Christine Nilsson is not equal as a singer to Jenny Lind. Mr. Max Strakosch, Miss Nilsson's gatekeeper, is the plaintiff.

RALPH TURNBULL, a member of the Tynemouth School Board, has been convicted of a breach of the Education Act, by treating electors with a view of securing their votes on his behalf. He was fined five shillings and costs, with the alternative of seven days' imprisonment. This punishment carries with it disqualification to vote at any education board, Parliamentary, or municipal election for six years.

THE SPINNING FACTORY OF Messrs. Shaw, Jarlino, and Co., Manchester, was completely destroyed by fire on Saturday night. The whole of the machinery, and a quantity of cotton, both raw and manufactured, were burnt. The damage amounts to £50,000. The origin of the fire is unknown.

THE TOTAL RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER from April 1 to Feb. 4 were £54,800,929, as against £50,345,423 in the corresponding period of the previous year. The expenditure has been £58,618,633. The balance in the Bank of England on Saturday last was £2262.

ANOTHER MANCHESTER COTTON-MILL has been entirely destroyed by fire, and the loss sustained is estimated at £30,000. The rapidity with which disasters of this kind have of late followed each other in Lancashire and the West Riding is somewhat startling; but no suspicion of incendiarism is even hinted at.

THE BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS show that the total value of British imports during the month of January amounted to £25,899,077, an increase of £9,000,000 sterling over the corresponding period of last year. The value of the exports during the month was £11,428,029, a decrease of two millions and a half. This is due in a great measure to the partial stoppage of trade with France and Germany consequent upon the war.

EARL SPENCER, in speaking at the inaugural banquet of the Lord Mayor of Dublin, expressed his belief that one melancholy chapter of Irish history had been closed, and that the prison doors would never again be opened to receive political offenders. He congratulated the assembly on the subsidence of crime; and if in one part of the country agrarian offences were still committed, he knew that he should be supported by public opinion in exercising exceptional powers of repression.

LORD REDFORD, Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords, is (we learn from a correspondent) seriously indisposed at his mansion, Batsford Park, Moreton-in-Marsh. On Saturday, the 26th ult., his Lordship was bitten in the leg by a savage dog, while walking alone near a farmhouse about two miles from Batsford. His Lordship was able to walk home, and at first the wound did not appear of a serious nature; but within the last few days the symptoms have changed for the worse, and much concern is felt for the result by his Lordship's friends and neighbours.

WILLIAM MURPHY, aged ten, who was described as a schoolboy, was charged with being drunk and incapable, at Wandsworth Police Court, on Monday. Mr. Ingham: "This is very shocking. Where is the mother?" A policeman said: "I found him lying in the centre of the road, and it is a wonder he was not run over." The mother: "He went to a funeral, and somebody gave him drink." Mr. Ingham: "It is very dreadful in a boy of his age." The boy was then fined 2s. 6d.

DEAN STANLEY ON THE DOWNFALL OF PARIS.

DEAN STANLEY preached on behalf of the Mansion House Fund for the Relief of the Distressed in Paris, in Westminster Abbey, on Sunday afternoon. The Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs, and Under-Sheriff Crosley, with the customary officials, attended the service in state, and amongst the congregation, which thronged every inch of the space set apart for them, were Père Hyacinthe (sitting near the civic dignitaries in the sacristy) and the Archbishop of Dublin. At the close of the service collections were made for the fund.

The Dean, according to his not unfrequent custom, selected a theme from different chapters. Taking a verse each from the 1st, 2nd, and 5th chapters of the Lamentations of Jeremiah, the entire text was this:—"How doth the city sit solitary, that was full of people! how is she become a widow! she that was great among the nations, and Princess among the provinces! Arise, cry out in the night: in the beginning of the watches pour out thine heart like water before the face of the Lord. Lift up thy hands towards Him for the life of thy young children, that faint for hunger in the top of every street. Remember, O Lord, what is come upon us; consider, and behold our reproach." The preacher, in an eloquent preliminary sketch, showed how the prophet whose words he had quoted was almost the only one who had lifted up his voice against the corruptions of the Jewish Church and State, until at last the city, falling, became a prey to desolation; and how to this day the rock-hewn cavern where the lamentations were supposed to be uttered was shown to travellers, while the grief of the prophet had been vividly portrayed in Michael Angelo's well-known picture. The general lesson taught by the text was the claims which suffering humanity at all times had upon us. And who (the preacher proceeded) can doubt its special application to the subject which to-day fills our thoughts? Here again, as in the time of the prophet, a spectacle is presented which at once arrests all the conflicting emotions and opinions which the portentous events of the last six months have inevitably produced amongst us.

Whatever we may have thought of the origin of this dreadful war; however little or much we may have condemned its authors; however deeply and bitterly we may have mourned over the means on the one side and on the other by which it has been prolonged and carried on, these thoughts sink into the second place at this moment. We think only of the overwhelming misery of the 2,000,000 human beings exposed to want, cold, and discomfort of every kind, increasing in intensity until it reaches famine, starvation, and death. Such a spectacle has not been within the experience of these generations, and, in some respects, not within the experience of any generation of modern history. There have been great natural visitations, like the Irish famine of 1846, the cotton famine of our northern districts in 1862, and sieges both in ancient and modern times during which the greatest sufferings have prevailed, but a siege on so vast a scale has never before been seen in the world's annals; and in the presence of such a visitation it is, I will not say the general duty, it is the general consolation, of the bystanders to lighten it. The very rev. gentleman next pointed out that the siege of Paris brought two special calls to us—the first of a character remote and permanent, the other immediate and pressing. In connection with the first, he spoke of the cruel nature of those laws of war which made such sieges necessary, and suggested that great cities ought no longer to be turned into fortresses. We ought to be thankful that the calamities which Paris had been called upon to endure could never be witnessed in this country, where no large city was fortified and no vast population inclosed within a circle of forts. It might be that in the fierce conflict of various passions even when peace was concluded, the desire to avert such miseries would wax feeble, and that no great Minister or wise philanthropist would be strong enough to root out for ever this special cause of human suffering. Still, it was worth while to remind ourselves and others of its existence. Coming to the immediate and pressing calls upon us, the preacher made an earnest appeal for the suffering people of Paris. Let us for once, he urged, speak of that great city in its nobler and more serious aspects—not as the Babylon which made the nations drunk with the cup of her sorceries, but as the Athens of modern refinement and civilisation, and as the clear, luminous eye of Europe; not as the Lucifer who made the nations tremble, and scattered terror and desolation over the earth, but as the bright star of the morning which has heralded the dawn of many a glorious day in the progress of humanity; not as the city of despotic rule, of the reign of terror, incredulity, or fanaticism, of the massacres of St. Bartholomew or of September, but rather as a city of heroic virtues all her own—of saintly and illustrious names which are the glory of all lands, whose praise is in all the Churches. Let us think of all the names of its sons it has embraced; of whatever is gracious, generous, benignant, and chivalrous either in far-off ages or in the present; of that which is enlivening, illuminating, engaging; and of that which has attracted the best affections around the noblest of pursuits. In concluding, by a close application of the text to the present condition of the Parisians, the Dean said he would not stop to inquire what might in the future be the regeneration wrought for Paris and for France by this fiery baptism; but reminded his hearers that the close neighbourhood of England and France, which in former times led to war, rivalry, and threat, was now the blessed opportunity for charity and tenderness. To no other nation in Europe had the task been so visibly assigned by the finger of God of showing that Christian charity was above difference of race, creed, or opinion, and of loving our fallen neighbour as we love ourselves.

LORD DERBY has replied to the memorial of his Tipperary tenantry praying him not to part with his estates in that county. His Lordship, holding that the duties devolving upon the possession of property in Ireland could be best performed by a resident landlord, could give no promise that he would resign the estates if he could find an honourable man as a purchaser who would treat his tenants as fairly as they had been treated by his father.

THE REGISTRARS IN BANKRUPTCY.—We, in common with the main body of legislative and legal persons, thought that the appointment of a Chief Judge would prove the mainstay of the new bankruptcy law. But if the registrars are to take upon themselves to act as Chief Judges, without any regard to the importance of the question brought before them, the new law will sink into far worse discredit than the old one ever did. Sir Colman O'Loughlin, M.P. and Judge Advocate-General, has been adjudicated a bankrupt, forced to resign office, and put to expense and dishonour, simply because a registrar has chosen to arrogate to himself the duty of deciding a point of novelty and difficulty, instead of reserving it for the consideration of the Chief Judge. The Lords Justices have annulled the adjudication, awarded to Sir Colman all the costs which he possibly could, and criticised the conduct of the official who made the adjudication. But their Lordships cannot undo the mischief wrought, or restate Sir Colman in his former position.—*Law Journal*.

THE BATTLES AND SIEGES OF THE WAR.—The *Kiel Gazette* thus reviews the seven months' campaign:—"In the present war twenty-three battles have been fought, their order being—Wettsteinburg, Würth, Spöck, Pange, Mars-la-Tour, Gravelotte, Beaumont, Sedan, Noisseville (before Metz), the three battles of Orléans, Amiens, Champagne and Brie (before Paris), Beaune-la-Rolande, Vendôme, Le Mans, Belfort, St. Quentin, and the great sortie against St. Cloud. At Gravelotte nearly half a million of men confronted each other—viz., 270,000 Germans against 160,000 Frenchmen. At Sedan there were 210,000 Germans against 160,000 Frenchmen. In the third battle of Orléans 100,000 or 120,000 Germans against 200,000 or 240,000 French. The disparity of numbers was greatest at Mars-la-Tour and Belfort. In the former 45,000 Prussians fought from 8 a.m. till 4 p.m., at first against 160,000, and by noon against nearly 200,000 French. In the latter nearly 20,000 or 30,000 Prussians and Badenians confronted 90,000 to 120,000 French. The three battles before Metz—Pange, Mars-la-Tour, and Gravelotte—show the largest losses on both sides, the loss of the Germans in the second being 600 officers and 17,000 men. Of all the battles during the past century, only the storming of Planchoët in the battle of Belle Alliance, Borodino, Eylau, and Zorndorf can rank in the same category with the battles before Metz. There have been forty-nine engagements, some of them resembling battles, and twenty successful sieges, including Paris, the first stronghold in the world, and Metz and Strasbourg, fortresses of the first rank. Only Belfort is at present besieged, while Bitch is invested and Maubeuge, Givet, and Cambrai are masked and watched.

DEATH OF MR. T. W. ROBERTSON.

ALL persons interested in the modern stage will learn with deep regret the decease of Mr. T. W. Robertson, on Friday evening, Feb. 3, at his residence in Eton-road, Haverstock-hill. Few dramatists have of late years risen so rapidly into celebrity as Mr. Robertson, and it is worthy of note that all his best plays were successfully addressed to the most refined class of playgoers. Born at Newark-on-Trent, in Nottinghamshire, on Jan. 9, 1829, Mr. Thomas William Robertson had just completed his forty-second year. Of entirely theatrical parentage—for both his father and grandfather had been lessees of provincial circuits—his first acquaintance with the stage began at a very early period. Educated at Spalding, in Lincolnshire, and afterwards in Holland, he greatly improved the opportunities thus afforded him, and laid the basis of an extensive knowledge of English and foreign literature, which he afterwards turned to excellent account. His earliest contribution to the stage was a two-act drama, entitled "A Night's Adventure; or, Highways and Byways," brought out at the Olympic Theatre on Aug. 25, 1851, when the late Mr. William Farren was lessee. The piece—which turned upon an imaginary incident of Claude du Val politely robbing the Lord Chief Justice, and then assuming the character of Count Chambord, an agent to Charles Edward, mixed up in a Pretender plot—was by no means remarkable for either construction or literary merit, and it was only repeated a few nights. A more fortunate venture was a slight farce called "The Cantab," produced at the Strand Theatre on Feb. 15, 1851. It was not, however, until his adroit adaptation known as "David Garrick," achieved, with Mr. Sothorn as the hero, such a notable success at the Haymarket, in 1854, that the name of Mr. Robertson came prominently before the public. The next year was the turning point of his fortunes. In November, 1855, was produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, the comedy of "Society," which at once established his reputation as a shrewd, observant writer of strongly-marked originality. Then followed on the same boards "Ours" (September, 1856), which so delighted the town by the novelty and neatness of its story; "Caste" (April, 1857), so excellently written and so admirably acted, securing admiration by the freshness of the theme and the boldness of the treatment; "Play" (February, 1858), a work of a more romantic kind, rendered memorable by a charming love-scene; and "School" (January, 1859), the most popular of the series, obtaining a consecutive run of 381 nights. In April, 1870, was produced "M.P.," the sixth of the series, and which was only withdrawn at the close of last November to make way for a revival of "Ours," still most successfully maintaining its position in the Prince of Wales's programme. With these pieces the name and fame of Mr. Robertson will ever be closely associated. His dramas include "Shadow-Tree Shaft," produced at the Princess's; "A Rapid Thaw," at the St. James's; "For Love," at the Holborn; "Dreams," at the Gaiety; "The Nightingale," at the Adelphi; and "Progress," at the Globe; whilst "Home" at the Haymarket will be remembered as an exceedingly clever adaptation. His last production was the comedy of "War," brought out at the St. James's only a few weeks ago, which, for reasons already sufficiently explained in these columns, failed to succeed. The piece was withdrawn after a short run of fifteen nights on the very evening the author expired. Mr. Robertson has been, besides, active as a journalist on several daily and weekly papers, and has written during the last eleven years numerous stories, essays, and miscellaneous articles for magazines and periodicals.

Mr. T. W. Robertson, who was twice married, leaves a family of three children.

A ROYAL COMMISSION has been issued, appointing Lord Cairns, Sir W. M. James, Baron Bramwell, Lieutenant-General Sir J. J. Scarlett, and Major-General D. M. Stewart to examine whether the recommendation of the Select Committee of the House of Commons that an amalgamated list of Colonels be formed from the British list, the Staff Corps, and the Indian list, from which promotions should be made to the rank of Major-General, by seniority, can be carried into effect consistently with existing Parliamentary enactments.

PROSPERITY OF IRELAND.—A brief paper issued by Dr. Nellien Hancock, the Irish official statistician, shows in a very striking manner the growth of prudent and saving habits among the humbler classes of the Irish community. From 1862 to 1870 the deposits in Post-Office savings banks have increased from £78,696 to £283,165. The increase has been continuous from year to year. Last year it amounted to 27 per cent. Nor can it be said that the deposits in the Government savings banks have been much swollen by withdrawals from the trustee savings banks. In the year 1860 the deposits in these amounted to £2,143,284, and last year they were £2,034,507. At the first institution of the Government savings banks there was naturally a falling off in the amounts entrusted to other savings banks; but, as soon as a system of official audit was established for them, the deposits flowed in again. Last year the proportion of increase was 4 per cent. The deposits and cash balances in Irish joint-stock banks have also greatly increased. In 1860 these amounted to £15,609,237; last year they amounted up to £24,366,478. There were fluctuations in the earlier years of the decade, caused by deficient harvests; but since 1864 the increase has been continuous, and last year amounted to 8 per cent. These brief facts speak volumes for the growing prosperity of the country.

SIR C. B. ADDERLEY OF THE SANITARY COMMISSION.—Sir C. B. Adderley, M.P., writes as follows to his constituents:—"The work which has now occupied me two years and during this recess has kept me much from the country—namely, the chairmanship of the Royal Sanitary Commission—seems to be approaching a successful end. The report is forthcoming, which gives a history of our confused and multifarious sanitary laws up to the present time, and extensive evidence, oral and written, on the imperfect working of local government—the most vital essence of our national vigour—in most parts of the country. It elaborates, through comment and argument, a complete consolidation into one clear statute of all the provisions which in every town and parish of England and Wales, except the metropolis, are required for the health and social well-being of the community. Mr. Bruce assures me that he and two of his colleagues are now hard at work preparing a bill from these materials; and I hope that, while the better organisation of our national defences will be necessarily the main subject of the labours of the approaching Session, this great work of domestic reform may find its quiet opportunity. The idea of the one comprehensive Act will be to render uniform, general, and active the powers of local government in every place under the inspection and stimulus of a central authority."

THE CAMBRIDGE SENIOR WRANGLER.—Dr. John Hopkinson, the Senior Wrangler and First Smith's Prize man for the present year, who was formerly a student of Owens College, Manchester, was, on Monday, presented by the members of the college with an address congratulating him upon his success. Dr. Hopkinson is the son of Mr. Hopkinson, an engineer in Manchester, and being disqualified by the fact that he is a Nonconformist from accepting the emoluments which attach to the honour he has achieved at Cambridge, he is following his father's business. The meeting was attended by the Principal and Professors of Owens College, the Mayor of Manchester, the President of the Chamber of Commerce, Dr. William Fairbairn, and other representatives of public bodies. In presenting the address, Mr. Joseph Bell said that every gentleman connected with the college, he believed, felt that it was not right that Dr. Hopkinson, or any Englishman, should be debarred from the emoluments which his University had to offer after he had justly earned them; but Dr. Hopkinson must console himself with the reflection that he had given great aid to those earnest men who had been pleading publicly and before Parliament for the abolition of University tests. Dr. Hopkinson, in his reply, confined himself to thanking his friends, tutors, and professors.

SOCIAL BRIGANDAGE.—In a room in a by-street, near a fashionable square, sits a close-shaven man with grizzly hair, expressionless eyes, and bushy whiskers. Books about the peerage and the landed gentry are his Bible and his Testament. He has made it his careful study to know the habits of the young men about town with expectations, taking peculiar interest in those who promise to outrun the constable; judiciously and opportunely he issues letters, containing the most philanthropic offers. Temporary embarrassments are to be cleared away, ready money is to be supplied for a mere formality, a nothing—a few scraps on a bit of paper. Assistance is supplied from time to time on the same easy terms, until the benevolent gentleman thinks it right to stop. When the young debtor is fairly caught, the strings of the net are drawn tightly round him. If he do not pay what is asked, he is ruined for life; and of course it was known that he could not pay. But what does that matter? By means unknown his paternal family is made acquainted with the state of things; also a wealthy maiden aunt, supposed to have been fond of the curly-headed boy. A family council is held, assisted, perhaps, by the family legal adviser. It turns out that measures have been cleverly taken; resistance would only cause unavailing scandal, purses are clubbed, funds are somehow raised, and the captive is ransomed from the brigand's clutches.—*All the Year Round*.

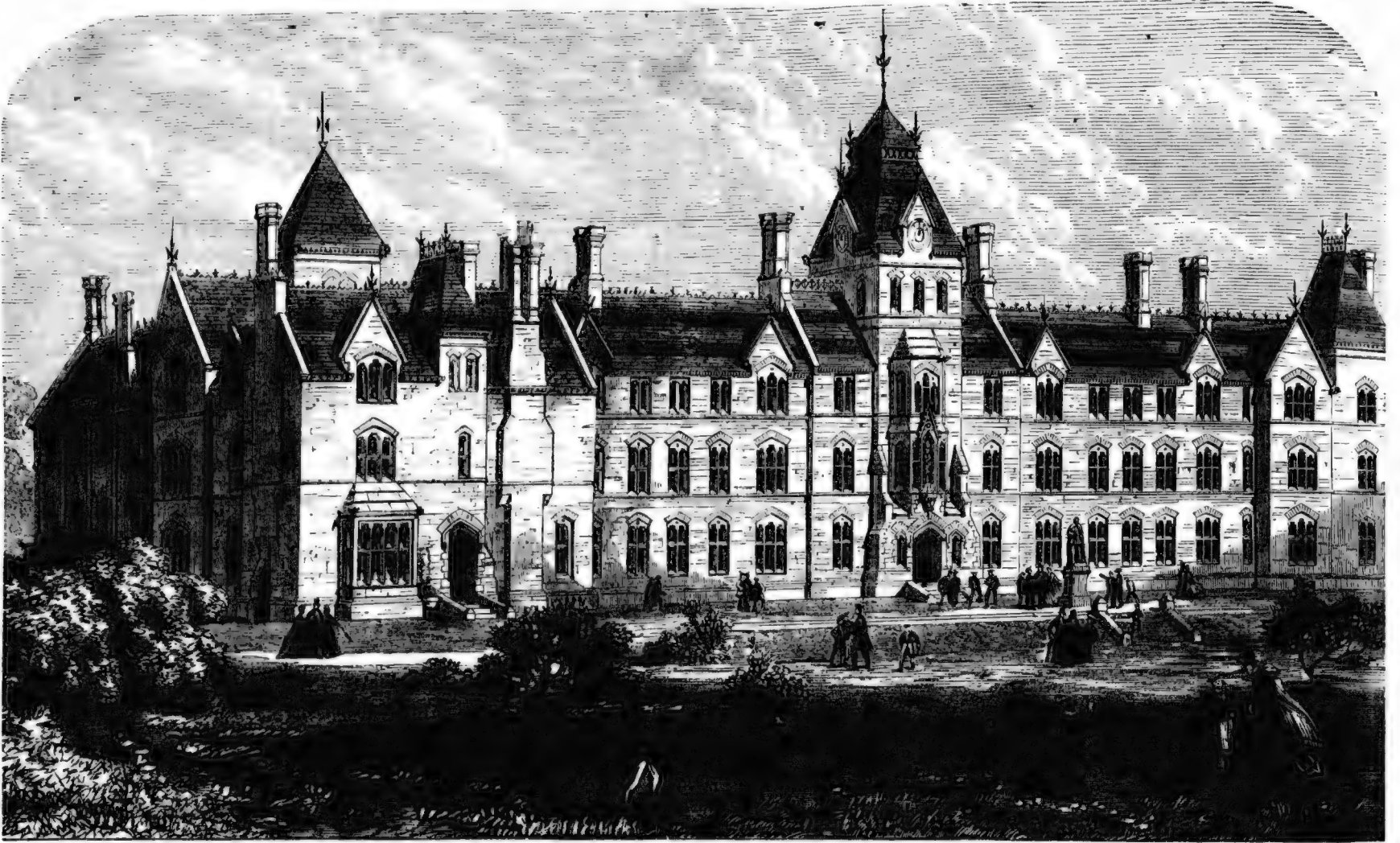
SOCIETY OF FEMALE ARTISTS, CONDUIT-STREET.

Among the hundred oil paintings our space will only permit us to mention a few, and two of them are Miss Margaret Itayner's "Deserted Church of St. Etienne, Rouen" (365), and the same lady's "Tomb of the Princess Charlotte, St. George's Chapel Windsor" (399), in which the light through the stained glass and the effect upon the sculpture is admirably managed. In "Children of Vesuvius" (351), Miss S. M. Louisa Taylor has sent a capital picture of a group of pifferari. In "A Roman Doorway" (369) is an excellent bit of real life by Miss E. S. Thompson. The girl standing there is finely unconventional, in spite of her cantadina costume. Another capital bit of Italian life, by the same lady, is "Roman Shepherd's Playing at 'Morra'" (413), admirable in vigorous drawing and life. "The Cowboy's Call," by Mrs. J. F. Herring, is finely composed, but seems deficient in evenness of tone and colour; it is, however, a remarkably suggestive picture, recalling some of the older cattle-pieces. Miss Louise Swift again contributes some admirable dog pictures, wonderfully alive and bright in execution; and Miss G. Swift a capital little picture of "A Belgian Locomaker" (400). "La Fiancée" (411), by Mrs. Crawford, is a charming, delicate little

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Be faithful to the dream of your youth; it is the image of a distant ideal, which, from the very fact that its reflection is in each and all of us, must, sooner or later, be realised. Cherish hopes in your soul; it is the bud of the flower. Have faith in friendship; worldly love is but its promise: they neither friendship nor love is supplied. Cherish love in your soul; not that you should stagnate in mere enjoyment, but that you should raise yourself to a worthwhile height. Of what do you complain? For what cause, and against whom do you raise that cry of revolt? Had you then formed so false a notion of human life as to imagine that the reward of your endeavours would be reached in this exile only? Is not aspiration the normal state of a human being? There is neither happiness nor repose upon this earth: what you call repose is egotism, the death of the soul; and what you dream of under the name of happiness would be the cessation of that which constitutes the essence of a human being. All that which is, is but in course of development, and is destined to end elsewhere. In this lower world there is for us only consolation, only hope. Is it God's fault if he has not accorded to you the power of reaching the haven before the voyage is finished? You are yet in the storm, the sea, the ocean; struggle on bravely, hand on oar and eye to heaven; the vessel will blow that sweeps you forwards on your way, and you have strength enough to rule it like a fiery coursor if you persist; but let your arm weary, your energy relax for a moment, and you are swallowed up in the depths. Cast behind you these phantoms of glory and enjoyment; they are vapours illuminated by the sun's rays for an instant, but dark and gloomy a moment after. There is but one reality in our human life—*duty*—mournful, but sacred as the stars. Make as all lovely things. Make your pact with duty; God in his goodness will double your strength, and give you love for your consolation. I, too, have suffered; I, too, have found life bitter; I have passed through the same tempest; my heart has been torn by the same passions; but God, love, and my faith in duty have saved me. To me alone have men appeared wicked and degraded;—but was not this an added reason to endeavour, at all risks, to make them better? Often have I mistaken the phantom of love for love itself; but ought I, for that reason, to

GALLANT RESCUE.—One of the most gallant of the many gallant life-boat services that are from time to time recorded was performed, a few days ago, on the east coast of Scotland, in the neighbourhood of Montrose. For two days previously a strong gale had blown from the south east, and a tremendous sea was everywhere breaking on the shore. At daybreak a partially-dismasted schooner, which tarried in the shelter of the Dams, of Arskjølbing, in Denmark, was driven out to be at anchor in Bervie Bay, about twelve miles north of Montrose. In a very dangerous position. The rocket apparatus from the nearest coastguard station was soon on the spot; but, the vessel being too far from the shore to be reached by it, a telegram was once sent to Montrose for the life-boat and a steam tug to come to the aid of the vessel and crew. As soon as practicable the life-boat *Mining Lane*, of the National Life-Boat Institution, was launched, manned by the well-known and skilful Ferryden fishermen, and was towed to the harbour's mouth, when it was found that the sea on the bar was too heavy to admit of the steamer being taken through it. After some consultation and an only naturally slight hesitation, the coxswain and crew of the life-boat determined at all risks to cross the bar, if possible, and perform the service without other aid than their own strong arms and wills, and off they went, followed by the anxious gaze and hopes of the spectators on shore. The sea on the bar is said to have been terrific, yet as each wave broke heavily over the boat, one throwing her up almost perpendicularly, she nevertheless steadily surmounted them; and, when over the heavy tide surfs on the bar, her oars were taken in and sails were set, and in an hour more she had reached the distressed ship. Owing to the heavy sea, it was still a work of no slight difficulty to get her on board, when, standing on the stern, had to avail the vessel of the brief moments when the boat was raised high on the summit of a wave, and thus one by one they jumped into her and all got safely on board. It had been thought that the life-boat would then have returned to Stonehaven, ten miles farther north, with the rescued men; but, fortunately, the wind had veered more to the east, and the schooner was enabled to return with them to Montrose, to the no slight joy and relief of those who, with anxious and wistful eyes, had been watching for her return. The life-boat's crew were loud in their praises of the behaviour of their boat, both under oars and sails; yet what would be the value of even such boats without the daring courage and skilful management of men like those composing the Ferryden crew?



THE COLLEGE AT FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE, SUFFOLK.

FRAMLINGHAM is only a small place, the inhabitants of the town numbering not quite 3000; but there are some spirited and sensible people there, and in the county of Suffolk generally. Shortly after the death of the late Prince Consort it was thought desirable that Suffolk should erect a monument to his memory, and Framlingham was fixed upon for its site. The question then arose, what should be the form of the memorial? and after mature consideration it was determined to found a college which, as stated in the prospectus issued, should "furnish the middle classes in Suffolk with the means of obtaining an education for their sons which shall place them, for all practical purposes, in such a position with the upper and lower classes as will fit them for the society in which it will be their lot to live." No plan could be more appropriate for an institution dedicated to the name of the lamented Prince, who showed in his lifetime that he felt much interest in this important object. At a meeting of subscribers to the Albert Memorial, held at Ipswich in March, 1862, shortly after his death, and presided over by the Earl of Stradbroke, Lord Lieutenant of the county, a proposition was made by Mr. Thomas Lucas, of Lowestoft, that ten gentlemen connected with the county, himself included, should each subscribe £500 to form the nucleus of a fund for a building suitable to the purposes of such a college. This proposal was at once responded to. The following gentlemen contributed £500 each:—The Earl of Stradbroke, president; Sir E. C. Kerrison, Bart., M.P., vice-president; Lord Hartismere (Henniker); Sir Fitzroy Kelly, Chief Baron; Sir George Broke Middleton; the Marquis of Bristol, Sir Charles Bunbury; Mr. T. Lucas, Lowestoft; Mr. K. Wilson;

Mr. R. Garrett, Carlton Hall, Saxmundham; Mr. J. Berners; Mr. W. G. Mantle, Leicester-square; and Mr. Goldsmith, Parliament-street—the last giving £700. Aided by the powerful influence of Lord Stradbroke and Sir E. Kerrison, and the other members of the council, but especially by the invaluable exertions and untiring energy of the honorary secretary, the late Mr. Richard Garrett, the effort was quite successful, the result being a magnificent building erected at an expense of nearly £30,000.

The college, incorporated under Royal charter, is under the government and direction of a board, consisting of a president, the Earl of Stradbroke; a vice-president, Sir Edward Kerrison; and twenty-four governors—the general management being under the charge of the Head Master, the Rev. Albert Daymond, unanimously selected for the post from a list of 140 applicants. He is assisted by an efficient staff of ten resident and four non-resident masters.

An important service was rendered by Sir Edward Kerrison in negotiating with the Fellows of Pembroke College, Cambridge, who possess, at Framlingham and elsewhere, sundry estates bequeathed in old times for educational purposes. After some conferences with the Fellows of Pembroke, who were willing to devote a part of the disposable property for the benefit of those for whom it was intended, Sir Edward succeeded in gaining a plot of land for the site, and a bill was passed in Parliament, at the instance of the Charity Commissioners, empowering the grant of fifteen acres of land as a site for the Middle-Class School. The building stands upon an eminence, in a beautiful, healthy, and central position, ten minutes' walk from Framlingham station, which is very convenient for access by railway to or from any part of the county, and distant ninety miles from London. It is

constructed of stone, brick, and iron, being fireproof in all its essential parts. Its entire arrangement is considered most satisfactory, and has been taken as a model for the basis of several buildings of a similar character. The architect was Mr. Frederick Peck, of Furnival's Inn, London.

The building is well warmed, ventilated, and lighted. The clock and bells in the clock-tower (costing £170) are a gift of the architect, Mr. Peck.

The total payment for each pupil is only £25 per annum, and it must be highly gratifying to the noble president and others concerned to know how highly the advantages of this valuable institution were at once appreciated. The college at present provides accommodation for 300 boys. There is not a single vacancy; and it may be mentioned that about 200 of this number belong to the agricultural class, in whose welfare, it is well known, the late Prince Consort took the warmest interest: the remaining number being composed of the sons of clergymen, medical men, and others not strictly belonging to the agricultural class, but all connected with the county of Suffolk. To the late Mr. Richard Garrett is due the fact of the memorial taking the form of a college for the education of the class with whom he was long and intimately connected; and nothing could exceed his devotion to the interests of the college, until death deprived the institution and the county of Suffolk of one of the most valuable members of society there.

The pupils are nominated for admission by the donors of £5 and upwards to the college, a donor of £25 being entitled, at his option, either to nominate three boys, losing his power of nomination afterwards, or else to keep, during his whole lifetime, one boy of his nomination in the college. A donor of £100 may either



ANCIENT ROMAN ALTARS RECENTLY DISCOVERED AT MARYPORT, CUMBERLAND.

nominate four boys, or else have a single nomination in perpetuity. Boys from the county of Suffolk are eligible before any others; but the remaining vacancies are open to boys from other counties at an extra charge of £5 per annum. The terms of £25 for Suffolk boys include board, washing, and teaching. The kind of instruction is such as to afford a practical training for the active duties of life in agricultural, manufacturing, or commercial employments. English grammar and composition; arithmetic and mathematics (giving a prominent place to surveying and book-keeping), the elements of the natural sciences, agricultural chemistry, geometrical engineering, model and architectural drawing; French and German, spoken by native masters; vocal music, and the rudiments of Latin are the subjects taught. Greek and advanced Latin are not included, unless by special arrangement. The religious instruction and worship are those of the Church of England, but the sons of Dissenters may be exempted, at the request of their parents. Scholarships of the yearly value of £25, called the "Goldsmith Scholarships," and four "Welton" prizes, of the total yearly value of £15, have been provided by donations from Mr. Goldsmith and Mr. Welton respectively.

The statue of the late Prince Consort, shown in the accompanying Engraving, has been erected on a pedestal in front of the college. It was modelled by Mr. Joseph Durham, A.R.A., the sculptor of the one in the Horticultural Society's gardens at South Kensington, and is of a somewhat similar character. This statue is of bronze, 7 ft. 6 in. high, not including the plinth. The figure is arrayed in the robes of the Grand Master of the Order of the Bath, the only order in the kingdom of which the Sovereign of the realm is not the head. The bronze casting is by Messrs. Elkington and Co., and admirably executed. The massive pedestal, of the finest polished Aberdeen granite, was supplied by Messrs. Macdonald, of Aberdeen. In addition to his donation to the college, in the success of which he has taken the warmest interest, the cost of the statue and pedestal (amounting to more than £1000) has been defrayed by Mr. Thomas Lucas, of the firm of Lucas Brothers, the well-known builders.

ANCIENT ROMAN ALTARS AT MARYPORT, CUMBERLAND.

THE local antiquaries of Cumberland and Westmorland had a grand treat afforded them last July. Some time previously seventeen Roman altars (the most remarkable discovery of the kind on record) were found buried together in a field on the estate of Mr. Senhouse, at Maryport, near to the old Roman camp there; and a meeting of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society was convened to hear Dr. Collingwood Bruce, the eminent antiquary, read a paper which he had prepared on the subject. We subjoin an abridgment of the paper from the full report in our able provincial contemporary, the *Carlisle Patriot*. Dr. Bruce said:—

"The north of England is rich in Roman inscriptions. Comparatively few have been found in the south; but, fortunate as we are in this respect, never before, probably, were the antiquaries of this district able to rejoice over such a sudden acquisition of treasure as we have before us to-day. Within a brief space not less than seventeen altars have been exhumed on a spot of ground outside the camp of Maryport, and all of these, with a single exception, bear inscriptions which are distinctly legible. As it is of importance to fix the time when the Romans seized the magnificent site now occupied by the camp of Maryport, we may as well at once address ourselves to this subject. On two of the altars recently discovered, and on another which we have been long familiar, the name of Marcus Aemilius Agrippa, the tribune, occurs. Now, from an inscription which has been found near the modern city of Camerino, in Central Italy, we learn that M. Aemilius Agrippa was a personal friend of the Emperor Hadrian, and that amongst the other offices which he held was that of prefect (or, as we should call it, admiral) of the British fleet. This enables us to fix the date of these altars. Hadrian was in Britain in the year 120, and it is not improbable that he may have brought his friend Agrippa along with him. Further, as there can be little doubt that the Romans established a camp at Maryport, because it commands the Solway Firth and all the waters in the vicinity, we see why the admiral of the British fleet was appointed to this station. But we have other evidence than this of the comparatively early occupation of the camp of Maryport by the Romans. On two altars discovered some time ago, which are now in the portico of the mansion at Netherhall, we find a prefect named Acilianus making on one of them a dedication to Jupiter. The date when Acilianus flourished is rendered clear by another of the treasures preserved in the portico, a much-broken slab, which mentions the erection of some building by this prefect, and 'for the safety of Antoninus Pius.' Antoninus Pius was the immediate successor of Hadrian, and he assumed the purple A.D. 138. The Romans must therefore have been here in the time of Hadrian and Antoninus Pius. The newly-discovered altars, except that they supply us with the name of Aemilius Agrippa, do not furnish us with a date. Still we are not altogether at a loss upon this subject. The character of an inscription and the form of the letters employed often enable us to judge approximately of its age. In the time of Hadrian the inscriptions were brief and simple, the letters well formed, and there was an entire absence of the practice which was afterwards introduced of uniting two or three letters together, after the manner of our diphthongs. Judging from intimations of this character, I would venture to suggest that the latest of these newly found altars belongs to the reign of Antoninus Pius. I am glad to find this opinion corroborated by a gentleman well entitled to speak upon the subject. Mr. John Buchanan, of Glasgow, who is familiar with the inscriptions found upon the Roman Wall in Scotland, all of which belong to the reign of Antoninus Pius, writes to me thus:—'These altars, as well as the cut of the letters, closely resemble those found along the Antonine Wall; and I agree with you in conjecturing that their era is about the reign of Antoninus Pius.' I think, moreover, not only that these altars were carved at the early period of which I speak, but that they were buried in the spot where they have been found long before the abandonment of Britain by the Romans. I found this opinion not only upon the clearness and sharpness of their sculpture, but upon another circumstance. After the Romans had been long in the country, and had formed matrimonial and other connections with the friendly natives, their own mythology became blended with the superstitions of the people with whom they associated. The native gods were asso-

ciated with those of Greece and Rome. Now, amongst the recently-discovered altars we find no trace of a British divinity. Jupiter is the chief object of worship, twelve are dedicated to him; the others are addressed to the Emperor, to Victory, to Mars, and to Vulcan. Had the altars been buried in the third or fourth centuries, I think we should have had some traces of the Cumbrian gods Cocidius and Belatucader, which we do not; and I think, also, that we should have had some indications of the conflict of opinion which we know was then taking place, in the discovery of some altars dedicated to the old gods; and probably, also, some dedication to the Persian god Mithras, the worship of whom at that time was exceedingly prevalent.

"Before proceeding to form a conjecture (absolute certainty, I fear, is unattainable) as to the causes which led to the interment of the altars before us, it is necessary that we should know the circumstances attending their discovery. The spot on which the

'cobble' stones. Into these pits the altars have been put. In no one instance was the face of the altar found lying uppermost. In several cases the inscriptions were lying sideways, in some downwards. Two of the pits contained three altars each; four other pits contained two each; others only one. Besides the holes in which altars were found others were examined in which no perfect altar was discovered, but only broken pieces of altars, and a mass of loose stones. The appearances presented by these barren pits led the excavators to suppose that they too had originally been occupied by altars, but that at some period anterior to the present they had been noticed and removed. The altars must have been placed in their beds with care. When more than one is placed in a pit it has been covered over with loose stones and earth before the next was put in, and the second or third was covered in a similar manner. Marks of haste are, however, evident. In one pit the first altar was lying at the bottom with its face downwards,

but two others were lying diagonally across it, as if hurriedly thrown in. In some instances portions of the capitals have been broken off the altars, apparently by the force with which they have been projected into their places, the displaced fragments lying beside them. The question now arises, how came these altars to be here? The first thought which suggests itself to most minds is—Has this been the site of a temple, and are these the altars which were placed within it? A number of circumstances obliges us to abandon this theory. No traces of foundations have been found upon the spot. Roman building stones have been thrown into the pits, but they have probably been brought from the neighbouring suburban buildings which extended to the north of the station. Had there been a substantial building on this spot traces of mortar would have been found, but there were none. Had this been a temple, the altars would have been found upon the surface, though covered with a mass of superincumbent ruin, instead of being buried in the way that has been described. And, lastly, no one temple would have contained so many as twelve altars to one god: twelve of the altars which we have before us being dedicated to Jupiter. From this circumstance it seems pretty plain that we have here the gatherings of several temples. These altars have been brought from the camp or temples in its immediate vicinity. Have these altars been placed here by friends or by foes? No one has paid much attention to Roman antiquities who has not earnestly desired to trace in existing remains some evidences of the transference from heathenism to Christianity which took place during the period of the Roman occupation of Britain; and some may be disposed to say that in this most remarkable find we have the wished-for proof. According to this view, the garrison have in a body embraced the worship of the one living and true God, and in a fit of righteous indignation have buried out of sight the altars dedicated to their false gods. The care with which the altars have been deposited in the pits and covered up is fatal to this theory. Friends, not foes, to the prevailing idolatry have placed them where they were found. Had religious enthusiasm led to their removal from the camp, they would have been defaced and broken into pieces, and the fragments would have been thrown over the cliff. The only circumstance giving countenance to this view is the fact that one of the altars to Jupiter is worn on the face as if it had been used as a common whetstone. I do not know that much importance is to be attached to this matter, for probably the reverence which the Romans entertained for their deities was of a very superficial character. On the supposition, then, that these altars were deposited in the pits where they have been found with a view to their preservation, and that they were deposited in them towards the latter part of the second century, what was the occasion which led to the adoption of this course? Whenever excavations are made in the camps or castles of the Roman Wall, proofs are obtained that the garrison manning it had more than once to submit to defeat and disaster. Two, if not three, layers of wood ashes and superincumbent rubbish are uniformly met with. One of these seasons of calamity occurred about A.D. 184. Xiphiline, in his abridgment of Dion Cassius, says, 'Commodus was engaged in several wars with the barbarians. The Britannic war was the greatest of these; for some of the nations in that island, having passed over the Wall which divided them from the Roman stations, and besides killing a certain commander with his soldiers, having committed much other devastation, Commodus became alarmed and sent Ulpian Marcellus against them.' The Caledonian onslaught thus referred to by Dion Cassius would not extend along the whole line of the Barrier. We have some evidence for believing that *Borcoviens*, the central camp of the line, felt its chief force. In order to repel the invasion and reconstruct the ruined works it would be necessary to concentrate the forces of the whole fortification. In order to do this the troops would for a time be withdrawn from those camps which were least threatened with danger. Maryport may have been temporarily deserted on this occasion and the cohort then in garrison may have barely had time to secure the altars dedicated to their gods against insult and injury. On the repression of the rebellion this cohort may have been placed in some other garrison and never returned to recover their altars. Such is the best explanation I can furnish of the circumstances in which these altars have been found. This view is in harmony with the early date of the altars and the care, yet haste, with which they have been deposited in the ground."

After giving readings and interpretations of the inscriptions on the several altars, Dr. Bruce proceeded to say:—"I will now indulge in some random remarks upon these altars. The form of them is for the most part tasteful, and the cutting of them good. As they must have been the work of soldiers, not of professional sculptors, we must suppose that even the auxiliaries of the Roman army possessed an unusual amount of artistic taste and skill. These altars are erected by different cohorts: eleven are by the first cohort of Spaniards, or its officers; four by the first cohort of Batavians, a Belgic tribe; and one by the first cohort of Dalmatians, a people from the shores of the Adriatic. We have a similar variety in the altars previously discovered here. We hence learn that it was the policy of Rome to use in foreign parts the martial tendencies of a conquered country. They also avoided massing together in one district large bodies of troops belonging to the same nation. In this way conspiracy was avoided. If I am right in supposing that all the altars before us belong to the reigns of Hadrian and Antoninus Pius, the diversity of troops named on them shows that a quicker exchange took place here at that time than was usual. On some of the stations of the Wall we have evidence to show that the same cohort was in



STATUE OF THE LATE PRINCE CONSORT AT FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE, SUFFOLK.

altars have been found lies at the distance of about 350 yards from the Roman camp which overlooks the modern town of Maryport, in a northerly direction. The altars have been clustered together in a space somewhat circular in its character, and of about 60 ft. in diameter. The discovery occurred in this manner:—J. Pocklington Senhouse, Esq., of Netherhall, having taken into his own hands a portion of ground hitherto cultivated by a tenant, had given orders for having it brought into good condition. As a first step in this process, the plough was driven to a greater depth than had previously been done. Here and there the share struck against large stones, which were marked for removal. On April 13 a stone was dislodged, and on its being removed a carved block was seen lying beneath it. This proved to be an altar. The attention of Mr. Humphrey Senhouse was called to the circumstance, and he instantly and energetically adopted those measures which have resulted in the discovery of the largest find of altars on record. It seems that a series of pits had been formed in the circular space of ground to which I have referred. These pits were from 4 ft. to 6 ft. deep, and usually they penetrated the subsoil (which here is a stiff clay), to some extent. The bottom of several of these pits were paved with

garrison for centuries in succession. The period of these two reigns was one of peculiar activity in Britain. There was the building of the wall of Hadrian, and afterwards that of Antoninus. When the Romans first established themselves in the north of England, the natives would be more restless and give more trouble than afterwards. There would be the greater need, therefore, for concentrating the Roman troops, at times, in places threatened with attack; and consequently more frequent removals. One thing is manifest from these altars, and that is, that the auxiliary troops of Rome, though all foreigners, were commanded by Roman officers. We have on these altars the names of eight commanders—Lucius Cammius Maximus, Marcus Menius Agrippa, Ulpianus Titianus, Lucius Antistius Lupus Verianus, Caius Caballus Priscus, Helstrius Novellus, Lucius Caelius Vegetus, and Titus Attius Tutor. These are all Roman names; and Roman names, with the exception of the *prenomen* or first name, were given in accordance with strict rule—the names indicating the *gens*, the tribe, the family to which the individual belonged. One of the commanders, named Antistius Lupus, tells us that he was born in Africa. This circumstance did not interfere with his citizenship. These altars disclose to us two peculiarities. For the first time we meet, on a British inscription, with the title of a tribune of volunteers. There are several examples of it in foreign inscriptions. Its appearance at the present day is perhaps opportune, as it has a tendency to stimulate and encourage our citizen soldiers. For the first time, too, in Britain, we meet with a dedication to the blacksmith's god, Vulcan. This, too, is strangely opportune, as Maryport is becoming a great iron producing place. On one important point these altars fail to give us the information we have long desired—that is, what was the Roman name of the camp of Maryport. A document called the 'Notitia,' written early in the fifth century, has come down to our time, which gives us the names of the Roman stations and the garrisons which were in them. By means of this and the inscriptions which are found in any particular camp we can often obtain its ancient name. This method fails in the instance before us. According to the 'Notitia,' the first cohort of Spaniards (of which we have so many records in these altars) was in garrison at Axelodunum. Now, Axelodunum cannot be Maryport: it must, from its order of sequence in the 'Notitia,' be situated on the Wall itself, and east of Bowness. The cohorts of Batavians and Dalmatians were not in this part of the country at all when the 'Notitia' was compiled. Horsley identifies Maryport with the Virodunum of the 'Notitia' where the sixth cohort of the Nervii was in garrison. Unfortunately, not a single inscription has ever been found at Maryport mentioning this body of troops. We must, therefore, wait a little while longer before we can attain to certainty upon this point. Let us hope that next year's ploughing may be as successful as this, and that amongst other things it may supply us with this piece of intelligence.

EXHUMATION OF HUMAN REMAINS.—A very curious instance of the insecurity of private and consecrated places of sepulture has been brought to light in the Southwark police district. On making a new street from London-road to Southwark Bridge-road it became necessary to remove a building which for many years was known as St. John's Episcopal Chapel, and more recently as a "Gospel Hall," where bibles and religious books were sold and lectures and preachings carried on. The upper part was demolished, but when the workmen came to excavate the foundation the site was found to be filled with coffins and human remains. An application to the magistrates to prevent desecration led to inquiries, and it was stated on Saturday, at the Southwark Police Court, by Mr. Dickens, surveyor to the Rolls estate, that the ground had been a private burial place, and that in 1791, funerals being discontinued, a lease was granted for the erection of a Dissenting chapel. It afterwards passed into the hands of Churchmen, but had never been consecrated. Mr. Dickens added that arrangements were being made to remove the remains to a cemetery.

GREENWICH AND MR. GLADSTONE.—The heads of the Liberal party in Greenwich having decided to take no action in the matter of the requisition calling upon Mr. Gladstone to resign his seat, the Advanced Liberal Association, at their meeting on Saturday night, confirmed the recommendation of the executive committee to present to the Premier an address expressing "unshaken confidence" in him as their representative, but urging upon him to submit to the next Parliament "measures to relieve the glaring inequality between the very rich and the very poor, by throwing a larger share of the taxation on those people whose enormous incomes promote a prodigal expenditure, prejudicial to the individual and to society." Among the measures which the association think likely to rally the working classes to the support of the Liberal party are: The payment of the National Debt by a graduated income tax; a land tax, to be applied to the reduction of duties on such necessities as tea and sugar; the abrogation of the game laws and the laws of primogeniture and entail; the utilisation of the waste lands; an audit of the national expenditure by an independent Commission of the House of Commons; the abolition of the purchase system in the Army, and of all sinecure offices; a thorough reorganisation of the poor laws, with an equal national poor rate; and the adoption of the ballot, the payment of members of Parliament, and a more equal distribution of seats.

MR. GLADSTONE AND THE LATE BISHOP HAMPTON.—The "Memorials of the late Dr. Hampton, Bishop of Hereford," just published, contains a letter written to the Bishop by Mr. Gladstone, on Nov. 9, 1856, expressing the regret with which he (Mr. Gladstone) looked back on his concurrence in a vote of the University of Oxford in the year 1836, condemnatory of some of the Bishop's publications. "I did not," Mr. Gladstone writes, "take actual part in the vote; but upon reference to a journal kept at the time, I find that my absence was owing to an accident. I have learned (the right hon. gentleman continues) that many things which in the forward precipitancy of my youth I should have condemned, are either in reality sound, or lie within the just limits of such discussion as especially befits a University. But that which (after a delay due, I think, to the cares and pressing occupations of political life) brought back to my mind the injustice of which I had unconsciously been guilty in 1836, was my being called upon, as a member of the Council of King's College, in London, to concur in a measure similar in principle with respect to Mr. Maurice—that is to say, in a condemnation, couched in general terms which did not really declare the point of imputed guilt, and against which perfect innocence could have no defence. I resisted to the best of my power, though ineffectually, the grievous wrong done to Mr. Maurice, and urged that the charges should be made distinct, that all the best means of investigation should be brought to bear on them, ample opportunity given for defence, and a reference then made, if needful, to the Bishop in his proper capacity. But the majority of laymen in the council were inexorable. It was only, as I have said, after mature reflection that I came to perceive the bearing of the case on that of 1836, and to find that by my resistance I had condemned myself. I then lamented very sincerely that I had not on that occasion, now so remote, felt and acted in a different manner."

THE LATE BARON EÖTVÖS.—Hungary has just lost one of her most remarkable men. Baron Joseph Eötvös, the Minister of Justice and Instruction, died in Pesth on the 2nd inst. The deceased statesman was born in 1813. He entered the literary career at an early age; for before he had completed his studies he had published three successful dramas. After he had spent some years in travelling Eötvös wrote a work on prison reform, which produced important results in Hungary. He was one of the first promoters of that movement against centralisation in Austria which, after various fortunes, finally triumphed in the establishment of the dual system of government in the Empire some four years ago. In advocating this policy he became an associate of Kossuth; and when, in 1848, the Provisional Government was formed, he was named Minister of Justice and Instruction. His exertions in favour of his political theories were manifold. He wrote novels, poems, leading articles in the journals of Hungary, besides being a frequent Parliamentary speaker. His writings possess, however, merits far more solid than those which obtain a transitory popularity for works that treat of contemporary politics. He was a man of very extended culture, gifted with brilliancy of imagination, as well as with much political foresight. As a man of action, however, he was far less distinguished than as a man of thought. He held office twice—first in 1848, and then in the Andrássy Ministry from its establishment up to the time of his death. During both these periods his régime was feeble and disappointing. No one, however, could deny to him the possession of brilliant abilities and honesty of purpose; his amiability of nature endeared him to a large circle of friends; and his learning and the breadth of his sympathies, intellectual and moral, procured him respect, not less among the German than among the Hungarian statesmen of Austria. His death has caused great and wide-spread sorrow in Pesth. The newspapers for three days were bordered in black; the institution in which the members of the Opposition meet hoisted a black flag; his funeral was, on the proposition of Francis Deak, attended by the Hungarian Reichsrath and by all the learned and public bodies of Pesth; and the Emperor has sent an autograph letter to the widowed Baroness, in which he pays the highest tribute to the virtue and genius of the deceased statesman.

MUSIC.

THERE is nothing to report this week concerning the Italian Opera Buffa except the fact that Cimarosa's "Matrimonio Segreto" is announced for a first performance this evening. A change was, perhaps, needed; and, on the whole, a very good choice has been made.

"Samson" attracted a crowded audience to Exeter Hall yesterday evening week; and highly gratified the audience must have been with a fine performance of Handel's splendid work. The chief vocalists were Miss Wynne, Madame Patey, Mr. Vernon Rigby, Mr. Lewis Thomas, and Mr. Santley, each of whom found opportunity for distinction. Only one encore, however, was demanded; the honour falling to Manoah's air, "How willing my paternal love," sung to perfection by Mr. Santley. The grand choruses, but especially "Fixed in His everlasting seat," were all well given in the imposing manner made possible by the society's great resources. Sir Michael Costa conducted. At the next concert Mendelssohn's "St. Paul" will be performed.

At the Crystal Palace, on Saturday last, Mr. Oscar Beringer played Schumann's pianoforte sonata with much cleverness. The audience, however, remembered that Madame Schumann had aforetime interpreted it in their hearing, and were not enthusiastic. Mozart's overture to "Le Nozze" (encored), Haydn's symphony in B flat (No. 9 of the Salomon set), Mendelssohn's "Trumpet" overture, and Schubert's entr'acte, in B flat, to "Rosamunde," made up a group of orchestral pieces calculated to give entire satisfaction, especially as each was played in the orchestra's very best style. Madame Sherrington and Mr. Santley were the vocalists; the latter introducing a new song by Signor Arditi, entitled "What shall I sing?"

At the Popular Concert of Saturday Schubert's octet was a great attraction, as was the pianoforte-playing of Madame Schumann, who is this season distinguishing herself more than ever by intelligent reading and vigorous execution. The fragments of Mendelssohn's unfinished quartet gave great delight to a large audience. Herr Stockhausen supplied the songs, which on these occasions relieve the attention required by classical instrumental works.

Madame Schumann played at the Popular Concert of Monday last, and was very successful in two of her late husband's pieces, as well as in Mozart's pianoforte and violin sonata, No. 17, which associated her with M. Sainton. The quartets were Mendelssohn's in A minor and Schubert's in D minor, both favourites. Herr Stockhausen sang on this occasion for the last time during the present season.

The remaining concerts of the week, upon which we can barely touch, were Madame Schumann's pianoforte recital in St. James's Hall, on Wednesday; Mr. Boosey's ballad entertainment on the evening of the same day; and Mr. Leslie's first concert on Thursday evening. In the programme of the concert at the Crystal Palace to-day appears a new symphony by an Englishman (!)—Mr. Henry Gadsby. Of this work more anon.

NEW MUSIC.

Boosey's Part-Song Book. London: Boosey and Co.

The contents of this handsome volume are forty original part-songs: eighteen composed by J. L. Hatton, six by Henry Smart, six by Joseph Barnby, six by Frank Mori, two by Elizabeth Stirling, and two by B. Congreve. Originally published in the penny numbers of Messrs. Boosey and Co.'s *Choralist*, these works have endured successfully a public trial; and are now brought together in a form which gives to lovers of part-songs a rich store of their favourite music. We cannot go through the book piece by piece, nor is there any need for such a course. The names appearing above are sufficient assurance that the contents are worthy of public notice and approval.

The Royal Modern Tutor for the Pianoforte. By HENRY F. HEMY. London: Metzler and Co.

We are not among those who rely much upon the devices constantly put forth with a view to make a "royal road" in the direction of pianoforte playing. Nevertheless, some of them have their value, and that here shown for facilitating the often arduous task of "keeping time" deserves approving notice. The general contents are well arranged, and graduated so as to take the learner on by easy stages. A large collection of popular melodies constitutes one of the chief features of Mr. Hemy's work.

The Sleeping Beauty. Serio-Comic Fantasia. Composed and arranged by GILBERT H. BETJEMANN. London: Hopwood and Crew.

Those who have been amused by the Covent Garden pantomime, now going through its closing representations, may be glad to have the musical souvenir prepared for them by Mr. Harris's conductor. Many of the airs introduced are arranged in a fashion easy enough to bring them within the means of nursery performers; who may thus be helped to a retrospect of their Christmas treat.

Eolian Harp. Fantasia on the Melody, "Just touch the Harp gently." By M. HOBSON. London: Hopwood and Crew.

The concoctor of this piece has introduced imitations of the harp, musical box, &c., and appears to rely upon them for success. Undoubtedly, he has made a pretty and showy thing; but whether the pianoforte is honoured or the reverse by being turned into an imitator, and whether the fact of imitation is one to make a parade of, remain questions for the balance of opinion to settle. We are on the negative side.

Je Me Souviens. Melodie, par WILHELM GANZ. London: Hopwood and Crew.

Herr Ganz has produced a morceau well adapted for use by players of moderate attainments who want "something pretty." The style and form used are anything but novel; while we have seen examples of treatment similar in detail over and over again. Nevertheless, as aforesaid, here is "something pretty."

The Farewell Letter. Song. Written and composed by LOUISA GRAY. London: Boosey and Co.

This song has been suggested by the war, and to help in relieving the distress of the war its profits are devoted. Purchasers will therefore do good when they buy it, and may, in turn, get good; for the words and music are above the average of productions by Claribel's numerous lady successors. The song has been sung with great effect by Mr. Sims Reeves at the Ballad Concerts in St. James's Hall.

Lillie's Good-Morning. Song. Composed by ELIZABETH PHILIP. London: Boosey and Co.

Miss Philip, undeterred by the common failure of sequels, has attempted a supplement to her favourite song "Lillie's Good-Night." She always writes with simplicity, and with a certain feeling as well as truthful expression; and these qualities are very noticeable in the piece before us. We see no reason why Lillie's morning greeting should not be as welcome as her evening salutation.

Cushla Machree. Song. By Mrs. ALFRED PHILLIPS. London: Boosey and Co.

Another lady composer! Verily, the masculine writers of songs and ballads must take care, or the "weaker sex" will push them from their music-stools. Mrs. Phillips strongly reflects the style of Claribel, and has produced a simple ditty, with which a capable artist might do more than appearances lead a casual observer to expect. The real strength of ballads such as this lies in a total absence of anything approaching to pretentiousness.

THE CENSUS.

THE arrangements for taking the Census of 1871 are now fully determined, and the necessary instructions have been forwarded to every superintendent registrar and registrar throughout the United Kingdom. The time fixed for the enumeration is midnight of Sunday, April 2, and every person then living is to be recorded in a schedule to be gathered in on Monday, the 3rd. It is desired not only to count, but to take down the names of the heads of families and of all related to them, with the conjugal condition, age, sex, rank or profession, and birthplace of every person either resident in the United Kingdom or belonging to its people. In order to effect this object, the various local authorities throughout the country have been called upon by the Registrar-General; and a letter has been addressed to every Mayor and every chairman of a local board, in England and Wales, asking for assistance in the districts under their respective jurisdictions. The manner in which this assistance can be rendered seems to be chiefly in the correct naming and numbering of streets and houses, with regard to which the Registrar-General points out in his circular letter that various subsequent advantages would accrue from the proper performance of the work. There are many towns containing long lines of cottage streets, formed by the gradual coalescence of buildings erected by several small proprietors; and in such streets it is not uncommon for each proprietor to give his little row a distinctive name, and to number the houses it contains from one upwards, without the smallest regard to the numbers in the vicinity. In Nottingham there was formerly a long street which was said to repeat its numbers up to three no less than thirty times, and which was the despair of relieving officers and parish doctors. A resident there would give his address as "the fifth number three on the right-hand side as you go up," for such sub-names as "Matilda-place" or "Eliza-cottages" had long been swept away. It is obvious that a similar state of things would not only be a serious source of trouble to enumerators, but that it would also greatly increase the labour of registrars in revising the enumerators' returns. In rural districts also, and especially in mining districts, there is often a rapid growth of unnamed cottages by the sides of lanes and by-roads; and many of these might easily be overlooked altogether. We fear that the Registration Office has itself been very tardy in its attention to this point, and that local boards, even with the best disposition in the world, will find it difficult to accomplish the reform demanded of them within the short intervening time. Considering the great importance of a correct Census, we hope that mayors and chairmen will alike use their best exertions, and that a work of national importance may not be hindered by want of earlier thoughtfulness about this matter of detail.

The registrars throughout England and Wales have been instructed to divide their registration sub-districts into enumerators' districts, taking as their basis of action the division employed in the census of 1861, and only changing this when a growth of population has occurred during the intervening time. They are also to make lists of proper persons willing to act as enumerators; and each is to send his list and his plan of division to his superintendent registrar before Saturday, Feb. 11. The superintendents, on their part, must consider and remark upon the lists and plans thus submitted, and must forward them to the Census Office before Feb. 21. In the course of the week beginning on Monday, March 27, the enumerators are to deliver their schedules at every house, and on board every vessel in inland waters, and are to collect them, as far as possible, on Monday, April 3, only leaving some of them for a Tuesday collection when it has been physically impossible to get through the work. After this there are specified days on which all the persons employed must complete and send in their various schedules, books, and claims for payment, so that the whole course and order of proceeding are sketched out in the most precise and methodical manner. There is manifestly no other way in which uniformity of operation could be secured. The office in Craig's-court takes charge of England and Wales only; but substantially the same arrangements will be made in Scotland and Ireland also.

It is manifest that much of the success of the Census will depend upon the enumerators. Of these functionaries there were 30,862 in 1861, and it is supposed that 33,000 will be needed in the present year. They are charged with the personal delivery and collection of the schedules in their respective districts, with the task of explaining what is required, and with that of filling up the schedule for ignorant people, in accordance with the best information they can obtain. Every enumerator "must be intelligent, trustworthy, and active; he must write well, and have some knowledge of arithmetic; he must not be infirm, or of such weak health as to render him unable to undergo the requisite exertion; he should not be younger than eighteen years of age or older than sixty-five; he must be temperate, orderly, and respectable, and be such a person as is likely to conduct himself with strict propriety and civility in the discharge of his duties." If the registrar is unable otherwise to find a sufficient number of fit persons in his sub-district, the Census Act enables the Secretary of State to call upon all overseers of the poor, constables, tithing men, headboroughs, or other peace officers (under which description the officers of the police force are included) and relieving officers of unions, to act as enumerators in the emergency; and the Registrar-General suggests that the nature of the case may be made the means of obtaining willing service from classes who would not be tempted by the modest remuneration. Any clergyman or other minister of religion, or any professional man who takes a special interest in the people of the place, might be invited to act as an enumerator.

English subjects upon their travels, whether at sea, in India, or in foreign countries, will be made the objects of particular attention. The Horse Guards, Admiralty, Foreign Office, India Office, Colonial Office, and Customs will all co-operate in the work; and in some of our possessions a Census will be taken simultaneously with that at home.

The instructions given to enumerators are exceedingly minute; and, to those who have not reflected upon the subject, may, perhaps, appear needlessly so. For example, the qualification for a place in the Census is to be alive at midnight on April 2. The enumerators are expressly enjoined not to include any one who may die before midnight, or any infant born after midnight. This seems like hair-splitting, until we look at the facts. There will probably be 3000 births and 1863 deaths during the Census day of twenty-four hours, or 4863 in all. If half of these births and deaths occurred in the night, and were improperly included in the returns, the population at any given moment would be overstated to the extent of 2432.

The first Census was taken in this country in 1801; so that the next will be the seventh. It will be the second occasion on which the whole population has been enumerated in one day—a thing which was done here in 1861, and which has never been accomplished out of England. In 1801 the population of these islands was only a little over sixteen millions and a quarter (16,302,410), and it is now expected to exceed thirty-one millions. No European country has increased more rapidly, or has sent out such colonies, the stems of mighty nations to come.

It is impossible, however, to predict with any accuracy the exact numerical strength of the people. The registration of births and deaths has only recently been introduced into Ireland; and is there, for some reason, most imperfectly observed. All the births are not registered in England, the emigration returns are not complete, and no record of immigration exists. It follows that the great work of April 3 will tell us truths which it behoves us to know, and which, in these days of great empires and armed populations, will have a very real and practical signification.—*Times.*

A CONVENTION WITH THE UNITED STATES has been concluded, under the provisions of the Naturalisation Act of last Session, to the effect that any citizens of those States who have been naturalised as British subjects may now divest themselves of their status as such subjects.

SMALLPOX AND RE-VACCINATION.

The following memorandum has been issued from the Medical Department of the Privy Council:—

By vaccination in infancy, if thoroughly well performed and successful, most people are completely ensured for their whole lifetime, against an attack of smallpox; and in the proportionately few cases where the protection is less complete, smallpox, if it be caught, in consequence of the vaccination, generally is so mild a disease as not to threaten death or disfigurement. If, however, the vaccination in early life have been but imperfectly performed, or have from any other cause been but imperfectly successful, the protection against smallpox is much less satisfactory, neither lasting so long, nor while it lasts being nearly so complete, as the protection which first-rate vaccination gives. Hitherto, unfortunately, there has always been a very large quantity of imperfect vaccination; and in consequence of this, the population always contains very many persons who, though nominally vaccinated, and believing themselves to be protected against smallpox, are really liable to be attacked by it, and in some cases, contract as severe forms of smallpox as if they had never been vaccinated. Partly because of the existence of this large number of imperfectly vaccinated persons, and partly because also even the best infantine vaccination sometimes in process of time loses more or less of its effect, it is advisable that all persons who have been vaccinated in infancy should, as they approach adult life, undergo re-vaccination. Generally speaking, the best time of life for re-vaccination is about the time when growth is commencing, say from fifteen to eighteen years of age; and persons in that period of life ought not to delay their re-vaccination till times when there shall be special alarm of smallpox. In proportion, however, as there is prevalence of smallpox in any neighbourhood, or as individuals are from personal circumstances likely to meet chances of infection, the age of fifteen needs not to be waited for, especially not by young persons whose marks of previous vaccination are unsatisfactory. In circumstances of special danger every one past childhood, on whom re-vaccination has not before been successfully performed, ought without delay to be re-vaccinated. Re-vaccination, once properly and successfully performed, does not appear ever to require repetition. The nurses and other servants of the Smallpox Hospital, when they enter the service, are invariably submitted to vaccination, which in their case generally is re-vaccination, and is never afterwards repeated; and so perfect is the protection that, though the nurses live in the closest and most constant attendance on smallpox patients, and though also the other servants are in various ways exposed to special chances of infection, the resident surgeon of the hospital, during his thirty-four years of office there, has never known smallpox affect any one of these nurses or servants. Legal provisions for re-vaccination are made in sec. 8 of the Vaccination Act, 1867, and in sec. 4 of the regulations which the Lords of the Council, under authority of the Act, issued in their order of Feb. 18, 1868. Under these provisions re-vaccination is now performed by all public vaccinators at their respective vaccinating stations; and so far as is not inconsistent with the more imperative claims for primary vaccination, any person who ought to be re-vaccinated may, on applying to the public station of the district in which he resides, obtain re-vaccination at the public expense.

Accompanying the above memorandum is another in reference to the supply of lymph, which is of technical rather than of general public interest.

At the meeting of the Metropolitan Asylums Board last Saturday, Dr. Grieve, of the Hampstead Hospital, furnished some striking testimony illustrative of the value of vaccination. He stated that, of the 582 patients who had passed through the hospital, the mortality amongst the vaccinated was under 7 per cent, while amongst the unvaccinated it reached nearly 43 per cent. Further experience only tended to confirm his opinion, that in nearly every person who had been vaccinated, and to whom smallpox had proved fatal, there had been some previous violation of the system, and in the majority of cases that violation had been caused by gin-drinking to excess.

A temporary iron hospital was opened, on Monday, in the stoneyard connected with the St. Marylebone Vestry, Lisson-grove, for the reception of smallpox patients not under parochial control. At the commencement of the epidemic Dr. Whitmore, the officer of health, suggested such a convenience, and the Marylebone vestry, in the most prompt and liberal manner, took the matter up and furthered his views. An iron hospital that had done good service during the last cholera visitation was at once opened; but that being found inadequate for the requirements of the parish, a new building of corrugated galvanised iron was, in the brief space of five days and a half, put up by Mr. Kent, of Euston-road. It will be used as far as possible for convalescent patients who have been treated in the other hospital. The whole arrangements are under Dr. Whitmore's personal superintendence, and are of the best of their kind. Thirty patients can be accommodated. The cost has not exceeded £300; and the vestry of St. Marylebone are already congratulating themselves upon the manner in which the epidemic has been dealt with under Dr. Whitmore's control.

A CENSUS OF VAGRANTS.

WHATEVER great and urgent questions may come on for discussion this Session, there are plenty of indications that a comparatively small one, Vagrancy, will make itself heard among them. Last year the member for Colchester brought this ubiquitous nuisance of mendicancy under the notice of the House of Commons; and, though Dr. Brewer's motion was withdrawn, after discussion, the debate elicited a variety of opinions and some practical suggestions from both sides of the Speaker's chair. On that occasion Mr. Goschen remarked that if Parliament would concede to the proper authorities power to detain paupers in workhouses, or casuals in vagrant wards, a longer time after admission than was now legal—so that the recipient of relief should not be able to quit his temporary abode the moment he chose—and also keep them at work, "he believed that would be a very effectual means of diminishing vagrancy and pauperism." We shall await with interest the announcement of any further development of this "policy of detention" that our Poor-Law Minister may be prepared with.

In the meantime several counties are astir to see what can be done to mitigate the mischief within their respective boundaries. At the last annual session of the Kentish magistrates Lord Mahon carried a resolution to the effect that it is expedient to establish in Kent a mendicancy society similar to those existing in some of the southern counties and in the metropolis. We would submit that Parliament needs, for a comprehensive discussion of the vagrancy question, fuller and more precise information about the various nightly

domiciles of tramps and wayfarers in England than it now possesses. The Poor-Law Board's statistics show that only one sixth of the migratory and unsavoury herd are relieved by the guardians. Something more about the distribution of the other five sixths and about their quarters should be published. At present the police count all the vagrants and tramps, whether sleeping in casual wards at the cost of the rates or in lodgings at their own cost. What is really wanted is not a lump return such as the Bluebook of judicial statistics gives, but a discriminative and exhaustive statement of numbers on one day or night. If the police this year would defer their enumeration to April 9 it would fall upon the same night as the general Census, and that would be an advantage, among other things, for comparison. Many members of each House interest themselves about vagrancy, and we hope some one may be induced to move for a return as soon as Parliament meets. Nothing short of its authority will obtain the information, and we venture to jot down the particulars to be sought. The number of tramps, vagrants, and wayfarers enumerated by the police throughout England and Wales on the night of April 2 next, stating (1) the number relieved by the guardians of the poor; (2) by the police; (3) the number found in tramps' lodging-houses; (4) in charitable refuges, and (5) elsewhere. These particulars to be displayed for the metropolis, and for each county in England and Wales. This is a sketch. If a private member moves for the return it should, we take the liberty of suggesting, be stringently worded, or the chances are greatly in favour of the intention of its author being frustrated.—*Pull Mall Gazette.*

AN IRISH WAY OF SETTLING IT.

An action brought by Mr. Poynter, late Captain in the 16th Regiment, for assault and battery against Mr. John Grey Vesey Porter, of Belle Isle, in the county of Fermanagh, came on for hearing on Monday, and attracted a crowded audience in the Court of Common Pleas. It arose out of an extraordinary scene of violence, in which the defendant avenged a supposed injury by personal chastisement. The summons and plaint charged that the defendant assaulted the plaintiff, gagged and bound him, put him on board a boat, where he was imprisoned for a lengthened period, cut off his hair, and finally tied him up and beat him with sticks. Damages were laid at £10,000. The defence traversed the plaintiff's averments. A strong Bar appeared on both sides. The Solicitor-General stated the case, and the plaintiff was examined to prove the facts. Mr. Poynter is the son of a gentleman of property in Kent. He joined the 16th Regiment in 1859, and saw some active service. Last year, while the regiment was at the Curragh, he sent in his papers, with a view of retiring from the Army; and while they were under the consideration of the military authorities a portion of the battalion went to Enniskillen, and he was the senior officer stationed there. He was popular with the gentry of the county, and made the acquaintance of the defendant, a gentleman of position and of large means, who lives at a picturesque spot on the margin of Lough Erne. After the plaintiff's commission had been sold he remained some time at Enniskillen, on a visit with the officers of his regiment, by whom he was much liked. On Saturday, Dec. 3, he had made arrangements with his own company to have a photographic group taken. At ten o'clock in the morning he was in his bedroom, when a man named Oldcraft, the defendant's butler, called and told him that Mrs. Porter had sent him to say that she wished to see him on the Dublin road, near the Model School, which is on the mainland, about a quarter of a mile from Enniskillen, and in the direction of Mr. Porter's residence. He replied that he could not go. Oldcraft came a second time, with a more pressing message, and again he refused to go. At two o'clock the butler returned and said that Mrs. Porter was surprised that Captain Poynter did not go to her, and that if he went then she would not detain him five minutes. The place to which he was invited was on the coach road to Dublin. When the third message came he was engaged in the barrack square, and he told Oldcraft that he would go, and walking down the road he met the butler coming for him again. Oldcraft told him that Mrs. Porter was in a boat under the bank at Killyhevin, a pretty country seat within a mile of Enniskillen. After he had proceeded about 150 yards down an avenue leading towards Killyhevin, five men sprang out from behind a clump of trees and surrounded him, cutting off his retreat. One of them then gagged him with a strap, another garrotted him, seizing him by the throat from behind, and they also tied his wrists with a rope. They carried him to a boat, in which he saw Mr. Porter with two guns, which he afterwards saw were capped. Having flung him to the bottom of the boat, they threw a rug over him and rowed away. The defendant held the strap, which served as a gag. He succeeded in getting the strap from across his mouth, and asked the defendant what that treatment was for; that he had never done him any harm. The defendant replied, "Lie down, you blackguard, or I'll strike you. You know what it is for; the unfortunate woman has confessed." He made no reply. The defendant struck him repeatedly with his fists during the passage down the lake to Belle Isle. Both his eyes were blackened. They were fully two hours in the boat. The defendant called for a pair of scissors, and, taking them in his hand, said, "Now, I am going to put the Belle Isle mark on you." At that time he had pulled Mr. Poynter towards him, and had his head fixed between his knees. He cut off the plaintiff's hair, and, while so engaged, remarked, "Perhaps you would like to send a lock of your hair to your lady friends at Enniskillen." He was then put back to his former position in the bottom of the boat. The defendant flung water on him from a tin pannikin repeatedly during the passage to Belle Isle. On arriving there the men unfastened the ropes, and walked him up between them to the terrace in front of the house, where two large upright beams had been erected, with a transverse one connecting them. Mr. Porter told his servants to keep the big bell ringing, and that the bugler of his band should sound the assembly. The plaintiff was then secured to the transverse beam, his feet barely touching the ground. Two whips were brought,

with one of which Mr. Porter commenced to flagellate him. He broke the whip against one of the upright posts, and then got the second, saying, as he took it, "Now I will show you what I am going to do to a blackguard English officer." He flogged him for about ten minutes, and then went away, after saying to his men, "Boys, this is the best day's work you have done yet; I will give you each £5, and, Oldcraft, I will give you £10." During the flogging one of the bystanders said "Oh! Master John, that is enough." There were several persons present in addition to those who came in the boat. After the flogging was over he heard Porter say, "If the blackguard wants anything, give it to him; give him a glass of sherry if he wants it." Mr. Poynter said he would have it, as he was cold and wet; but he did not get it. They said there was none in the house. He gave one of the men money, and he got some whisky for him. He was driven towards town in the defendant's private car, and then proceeded by post car at his own expense. He was very ill after the treatment he received. It appeared that the affair arose out of Mr. Poynter being suspected of having engaged in an improper intrigue with the defendant's wife. On cross-examination by Mr. Butt, Q.C., the plaintiff admitted having received letters from Mrs. Porter, one of which came after she had left her husband's house, on Dec. 26, and was in these terms:—"I told the truth to try and save them all. Oh, dear, do the same, and all may yet be well. Forgive your little Ellie; alone, quite alone to-day." Mr. Poynter stated that he had not the slightest idea what she meant. He sent no answer to that letter. He was twice alone in a room with Mrs. Porter after a ball. On the last occasion he was over two hours with her. He admitted having said that he believed she was trying to seduce him. He objected to go and see her on occasions when she was alone. He did not like it, and thought she was going on foolishly. He knew that Mr. Porter would not be at home on the occasions when he remained alone with her. The doors might have been barred, but he did not think they could have been from the inside without his knowledge. He disliked Mrs. Porter speaking to him about family matters, and told her distinctly that she must not do so. He took care to act coldly to her, and disabuse her mind of any idea, if she had any, that he regarded her otherwise than as an acquaintance. He had met her at Mrs. Greer's house and at her father's, also on the road walking with her maid and driving with a friend. He walked two miles along the road with her. On the occasion of his last visit to Belle Isle she told him that she was living unhappily with her husband.

The case came to a close on Wednesday by the jury being unable to agree, and consequently being discharged without delivering a verdict.

THE COMING MILITARY SESSION.—It has become abundantly evident during the past few weeks that one of the most engrossing topics of the early part of the Session will be the condition of our Army and Navy, and that the attempts which have continuously been made by the military section of the House of Commons (nearly one fourth of the whole) will be renewed with great increase of vigour, under what they will deem the peculiarly favourable circumstances created by the present condition of European politics. For years past, whenever the Estimates have been presented to the House of Commons by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, we have heard their horseleech cry, "Give! give!" With all the pertinacity of hungry and even of greedy men, they have tried to persuade the British taxpayer that, unless he was willing to pay for needless outlay more handsomely, there was nothing to prevent his being gobbled up at a mouthful by the first European ogre who might open his mouth at him. Recently we have had it dinned into us by journals under the control, or at least the strong influence, of the military class, that for want of a big army John Bull's ancient roar has grown too feeble to traverse the Channel which divides him from the Continent, and that that terrible thunder which was wont to make Europe shake in its shoes whenever he shook his mane, and pawed with his foot, and bellowed his displeasure, is now only an occasion of laughter to the whole European world. Very carefully and continuously have these military gentlemen and their sympathisers in the press been preparing their ground for what will prove to be, we fear, the most desperate attack on the British taxpayer that has been made for years. The taxpayer

must therefore look out. It is the huge misfortune of this country that we have a large and influential class who are directly interested in war. It is the only profession which, to their notions, befits "a gentleman." In fact, we have not had for years a war bloody and deadly enough to let in more than a handful of that crowd which is anxiously and clamorously waiting at the door of the Horse Guards and the Admiralty. What wonder, then, that we should hear the cry, alike from the beleaguered officials and the beleaguering expectants, "More armaments! A bigger army! More supplies! Larger estimates! Wolf! wolf! Europe is on us, and we shall be pitiously devoured!"—*English Independent.*

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.—At the weekly meeting of the London School Board, on Wednesday, Mr. Reed, M.P., gave notice of a motion to the effect that no application from managers of schools to be placed under the board will be entertained until the returns required by the Act of Parliament have been received and considered. The Rev. J. Rodgers moved the appointment of a committee to consider the best mode of carrying out the compulsory powers conferred upon the board by the 74th clause of the Act. Miss Davies said that, as voluntary education had been tried and had been found wanting, the board ought to try compulsory education. Canon Miller said there were immense difficulties in the way, but that there really seemed no other mode of reaching neglected children. After some discussion, the motion was agreed to; and then Mr. Lucraft proposed that it be a by-law of the board that the parents of children between five and thirteen shall be compelled to cause such children to attend school. Mr. Freeman seconded the motion, which, at the suggestion of Dr. Barry, was slightly altered, and then agreed to. It was determined, by 35 to 6, to appoint a solicitor.

THE LATE JEWEL ROBBERY.—At the Marylebone Police Court, on Thursday, Martha Tarpey, Campion-terrace, Leamington, was charged on remand with violently assaulting Mr. James U. Parks, at Upper Berkeley-street, and with stealing a quantity of diamonds, of the value of £2500, the property of Messrs. London and Ryder, Bond-street. Mr. Mansfield committed the prisoner for trial, and refused to accept bail, but said Mr. Haines could apply to a Judge at Chambers to admit her to bail. The prisoner, who seemed to feel her position acutely, was then removed.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, FEB. 3.
BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—W. HAYWARD, St. Mary Axe, City, spice merchant.
BANKRUPT.—G. H. COGHAN, Fenchurch-street, cigar importer.—G. COLEMAN, Whitechapel-road, shoemaker.—S. M. JOSEPH, Chalk Farm-road, watchmaker.—E. MEANE, High-street, Southwark, hop merchant.—H. W. WEBSTER, Kings-road, Bedford-row, builder.—W. COLLIER, jun., Sheffield, manufacturing chemist.—B. BURGESS and E. SOULBY, Liverpool, commission agents.—L. WRIGHT, Ilkeston, grocer.—F. R. CHUTWELL, Bath, attorney-at-law.—W. DONALD, Cumberland, butcher.—E. ELCOCK, Lower Penn, licensed victualler.—G. MASON, Hulme, shoemaker.—L. WHITE, White-cliff, flax-dealer.
SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—P. CLARK, Blackhills, Nairn, farmer.—G. CRAWFORD, Edinburgh, baker.—G. B. FRASER, Dundee, wine merchant.—J. DICKSON, Edinburgh, baker.—D. HAMILTON, Perth, dairyman.—A. M'DIARMID, Alexandria, Dumfriesshire, boot and shoe maker.—J. WOOD, Aberdeen, commission merchant.—W. M'LEAN, Ross-shire, baker.—C. MUNRO, Inverness-shire, saddler.—A. WILSON, Edinburgh, butcher.

TUESDAY, FEB. 7.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—T. DARCH, Paddington, carriage.
BANKRUPTS.—E. MANSELL, Dulwich, auctioneer.—F. THEURER, Oxford-street, restaurant-keeper.—W. B. BEACH, Parkview Villa, near Gloucester, shipowner.—E. COOK, Greenwich, engineer.—G. GALLICK, jun., Sutton, stationer.—E. HARRIS, Bristol, licensed victualler.—H. J. INGRAM, Cheltenham, surveyor.—W. LYCETT, Wharfedale, salt manufacturer.—M. A. MONK, Bristol, pawnbroker.—J. POTTER, Dudley, engineer.—M. TWIDDELL, Sunderland, merchant.—W. WILSON, Thirsk, carrier.
SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—P. HARLEY, Glasgow, shirtmaker.—G. HENRY, Lerwick, merchant.—G. McCULLOCH and J. PATTERSON, Port Glasgow, ship-builders.—W. OYENS, Edinburgh, cost agent.—J. C. MURPHY, Dumbarton, boot maker.—R. D. PRYDE, Dundee, merchant.—T. DUNCAN, Glasgow, grocer.



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